FBIS DAILY REPORT

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MOSCOW COMMENTS ON 'POLITICAL THAW' IN EUROPE SINCE HELSINKI

LD231040 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Vladimir Teplov commentary: "Britain and the Problem of Disarmament"]

[Text] In August 1975, 33 European countries plus the United States and Canada signed the Final Act of the European conference at Helsinki, following a painstaking joint effort to work it out. Three and a half years have passed since that exceptionally important event. It is a short time in a historical context, but already we can confidently say that the political thaw in Europe is largely the outcome of the agreements reached at that conference.

Speaking at a luncheon for the French foreign minister 10 days ago, the Soviet foreign minister, Andrey Gromyko, said that in a European context the Final Act was comparable with the United Nations Charter, whose purpose was to preserve peace and prevent a new war. He said the Final Act was a contributing factor in the process of international relaxation, cooperation and security in Europe. It had considerable appeal to people in many other parts of the world, too.

The signatories to the Final Act have done a lot to implement the principles and understandings incorporated in it. The resulting relaxation of international tension, naturally, has had its impact on Soviet-British relations.

Last year, for example, saw substantial progress. One case in point was the seventh annual session in London of the standing Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Scientific, Technical and Economic Cooperation. The two sides noted progress in cooperation in fundamental sciences, environmental protection and public health. The two countries reported joint work under 17 agreements on scientific and technical cooperation. Bilateral trade had increased to reach 1,332,000,000 rubles in 1977. This is a small figure for two countries such as the Soviet Union and Britain. But the fact that trade between them is growing, even if at a leisurely pace, is a sign of a good outlook.

There were also other developments, such as the British week in the Siberian city of Novosibirsk which included a wide range of events. It met with a positive response both in the Soviet Union and in Britain. Many other developments also point to a positive movement forward.

The Soviet Union continued its policy of building international relations within the framework of the process of relaxation. It did so in its relations with the West, including Britain. But some political circles in Britain clearly failed to be as consistent. A vociferous campaign over human rights abroad was coupled with open attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. Last year London was tempted to pressurize the Soviet Union in a bid to influence its domestic policy. Another danger sign came when London began to play up to Beijing in its anti-Soviet stand.

The Soviet Union closely follows the military rapprochement between the West, notably Britain, and China. Leonid Brezhnev, speaking in interview with TIME magazine, has described this policy as an adventure which has very dangerous implications for peace.

Although these developments are bound to affect the climate of relations between the Soviet Union and Britain, it is a fact that there is a good deal of interest in Britain in cooperation with the Soviet Union. The reason is manifold, not least an awareness of the indisputable fact that many vital international problems can only be resolved through joint efforts.

According to a number of official statements made last year, Britain intends to encourage the process of international relaxation and promote relations with the Soviet Union. While these statements attracted attention, there were doubts whether they would be supported by concrete action.

A second meeting of the participants in the European conference is scheduled to be held in Madrid in the autumn of 1980 under an agreement reached in Belgrade. If all the participants show a constructive attitude this will undoubtedly contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out by the European conference: stronger peace and security in Europe, and closer cooperation between European nations.

MALTA MEETING APPROVES AGENDA, PROCEDURE FOR CSCE CONFERENCE

LD161348 Moscow TASS in English 1337 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Rome, February 16, TASS--The agenda and also the procedural and organisational questions of the meeting of experts on economic, scientific and cultural cooperation in the Mediterranean were approved Thursday evening at a plenary session of the meeting now under way at La Valetta. The agenda of this forum, taking part in which are experts of the states-participants of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation, provides for the consideration of possibilities toexpand economic, scientific and cultural cooperation in conformity with the final document of the Belgrade meeting.

Two working panels of the conference have been set up. The adopted procedure of the meeting stipulates that the Mediterranean nations, not taking part in it, will be able to attend and make their contribution to its work both at plenary meetings and in working panels.

The statement made by the Finnish delegate Rayakosky, chairman of the plenary session, points out that the procedure related to the contribution to the Malta meetings of Mediterranean states not a taking part in it, would not be a precedent for other forums held within the frameworks of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The general discussion will begin at the meeting today.

TASS REPORTS ON BRATISLAVA CONFERENCE ON PEACE, SOCIALISM

LD212338 Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 20 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Bratislava, February 20, TASS--An international scientific conference on "Socialism and Peace" opened here today. It is attended by delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. Also present are representatives of the World Peace Council, the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Women's International Democratic Federation, the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the International Union of Students, the International Organization of Journalists and representatives of the editorial board of the journal WORLD MARXIST REVIEW [PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA]. The conference is to discuss the problems of struggle for peace by the countries of the socialist community, their contribution to the relaxation of international tension, concerted activity by the fraternal countries in the foreign-policy field, aimed at achieving mutual understanding among the peoples on the basis of the Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence.

Conference Ends

LD231748 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Bratislava, February 23, TASS--The international scientific conference "Socialism and Peace", organized by the Czechoslovak Peace Committee, ended here.

The participants in the conference, representing the peace movement of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia, sent a telegram to the peace committee of the SRV, expressing support for the just struggle of the heroic Vietnamese people against the Chinese aggressors, and resolutely condeming the Beijing leadership's provocative actions directed against peace and socialism. The telegram demands that the aggression against Vietnam should be stopped immediately and that Chinese troops should be withdrawn from Vietnamese territory.

SOCIALIST PARLIAMENTARIANS IN BUCHAREST PROTEST PRC ATTACK

LD202002 Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 20 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Bucharest, February 20, TASS--The delegations of parliamentary groups of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslavakia, which have met in Bucharest in connection with the consultative conference of leaders of parliamentary groups of socialist countries, resolutely denounce China's armed attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and demand an immediate and unconditional end to that aggression and withdrawal of the Chinese troops from the Vietnamese territory. The mass intrusion of the Chinese Armed Forces into Vietnam grossly flouts the most elementary norms of international law, the principles of the U.N. Charter and international relations, is a new, still more dangerous stage in implementation of the policy of violence, diktat and expansionism which undermines international security. The disgraceful war, unleashed by China's ruling circles against the heroic Vietnamese people, creates a grave threat to peace in Southeast Asia and the whole world, is a challenge to all peace-loving forces, all honest people on earth. The Chinese people, just as other peoples, needs peace, but not war. All peace-loving states, the public of the world demand an end to China's aggressive actions against Vietnam. The delegations call upon the national parliamentary groups and parliamentarians of all countries to raise their voice, together with other political and public forces in support of the just struggle of the freedom-loving Vietnamese people, in defence of Vietnam from China's aggressive encroachments.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

LD232252 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

["International Situation--Questions and Answers" program presented by foreign political commentator Valeriy Kosovan, with international affairs journalist Oleg Anichkin and TASS political observer Anatoliy Krasikov]

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Hello, esteemed comrades: We have received tens of thousands of letters from listeners to this program in which they express their solidarity with the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the Chinese aggression.

PRC's Invasion of SRV

The Chinese assault on Vietnam has stirred the entire world. The news of the fact has spread like wildfire through all countries and continents. It is significant that news agencies added a question to their first dispatches about the penetration of Chinese troops into Vietnam: What will the reaction of the Soviet Union be? The answer of the Soviet Union to Beijing's aggression against Socialist Vietnam was concise and clear. The Soviet Government's announcement points out that the Soviet Union will fulfill the pledges made under the friendship and cooperation treaty between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. This treaty was published in PRAVDA on 4 November 1978. The Chinese assault on Vietnam, the Soviet Government announcement says, is further evidence of the irresponsibility with which Beijing regards the destinies of the world and of the criminal ease with which the Chinese leadership employs arms. The Soviet Government underlines that those who determine Beijing's policy ought to stop before it is too late.

The Chinese invasion of Vietnam has produced an extremely tense situation--a situation that has endangered the peace and security of all of Southeast Asia and large neighboring regions. And here is a highly remarkable fact: Exactly 24 hours before the Chinese assault on Vietnam, the U.S. State Department informed some specially trusted newsmen that it was expecting Beijing's onslaught against Vietnam's border defences to come at any time. Select Washington journalists were also given detailed information on the composition of Beijing's troops that were to attack Vietnam. Some 150,000 Chinese troops would constitute the first wave of the invasion and 180,000 would be held in reserve. This makes 30 divisions plus 150 aircraft in all.

The position of the U.S. Government with regard to the Chinese invasion was also curious. Officials in Washington appealed to both sides to observe restraint, without condemning China's unprovoked aggression against Vietnam. This naturally encouraged the Chinese aggressors. The U.S. State Department declared that any statement on the Chinese penetration into Vietnam ought to be linked with previous U.S.-Beijing attacks on the Vietnamese for the bankruptcy of the Pol Pot clique. [as heard] Although the Washington government declared its neutrality with regard to the situation between Beijing and Hanoi, in words at least, nevertheless, according to the New York TIMES, the U.S. State Department let it be known that the United States would, near the area of conflict, hold some naval exercises that had been planned a long time ago.

Western political observers are of the opinion that the invasion of Vietnam by Chinese troops during the visit of Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong to Phnom Penh was no coincidence. The Chinese leaders did not have to persuade the former rulers of Kampuchea in order to turn them into a tool for the realization of their plans. This is why Beijing still and in a moving way protects the Pol Pot clique whom the people of Kampuchea have thrown out from their land. The Chinese top leadership apparently links its actions in Vietnam with the so-called Kampuchean problem, and is counting on Western support.

But there is no Kampuchean problem. One must look soberly at facts and not seek consolidation in illusions. The People's Republic of Kampuchea does exist. Pham Van Dong's visit to Phnom Penh and his talks with the chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, Heng Samrin, has not only strengthened the friendship between the people of the two countries but has also raised their cooperation to the level of international law. A treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was signed in Phnom Penh. The treaty was concluded between two sovereign, independent states. It stipulates that both sides will undertake to make every effort to develop and protect the traditions of combat solidarity, friendship and cooperation between Kampuchea and Vietnam. The sides will give each other comprehensive assistance in strengthening and defending their independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the peaceful toil of the people of every country against the subversive activities of the forces of imperialism and international reaction. Each side, it is said in the document, will take effective measures for the realization of this agreement, should the need arise. Thus the Vietnam-Kampuchea treaty is also a political reality which those who do not care for it will have to take into consideration.

It is impossible not to draw attention to some of Beijing's other maneuvers, too. For example, China has declared that it has no intention of occupying Vietnam and that it is ready to hold talks. This gesture is familiar to the Indian people, the Indian paper PATRIOT writes not without some irony, and cannot help recalling that the Chinese Government resorted to the same kind of hypocrisy during the aggression against India in 1962. We know that as a result of the border conflict provoked by the Chinese leaders at that time, China seized a sizeable piece of land from India and has occupied that territory until this day. At the time the agression was explained by a need to rectify boundaries. Now--in the words of the vice premier of the State Council of the PRC, Deng Xiaoping--Vietnam must be given a lesson, as it were. The ruling circles in China have referred to some kind of Vietnamese provocations on the Chinese border and are presenting the case as if the assault on Socialist Vietnam were nothing but a counterattack launched in response to Vietnamese actions. In reality, the main cause of current events is the wish of the Vietnamese to maintain their liberty, which was won at high cost, and their refusal to become Beijing-oriented.

On the eve of the aggression, the Chinese authorities unleashed an all-out anti-Vietnam campaign. They accused the Vietnamese of persecuting the Huaqiaos--people of Chinese nationality who live on the territory of Vietnam. In actual fact, Beijing's displeasure was occasioned by the socialist changes in Vietnam. In March 1978 Vietnam undertook to reorganize its trade structure in order to strengthen the state sector, and in May the Government of Vietnam introduced a new currency for the whole country.

All this undermined the position of Chinese traders who dominated the Chinese community in Vietnam. Under the influence of Beijing's propaganda, they started leaving the country. Translated into Chinese, "Huaqiao" means "Chinese emigrant." This is the name given to those who left China in search of a better lot abroad. On the whole, they are an industrious people. But among them are quite a few prosperous Chinese--wholesale traders, financiers and industrialists. It is this emigre elite on whom Beijing relies. The bouregois layer of Chinese emigre colonies in Southeast Asian countries possesses considerable capital--some $15 billion. It controls the links between Chinese communities in their own country with those in other states. The bourgeois Chinese occupy key positions in the economies of Southeast Asian countries. As the Jakarta newspaper MERDEKA put it, they have such a strong influence that, in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore for instance, they could literally cause real economic chaos within a matter of days. All this has put the publics of these countries on their guard.

Chinese leaders are constantly recruiting the services of legal and illegal immigrants as spies and subversives. Last year in Indonesia, for example, a big underground organization spying for China was discovered. And now we have proof of the fact that Beijing is relying not only on the support of the Huaqiao in carrying out its policy of pressure on neighboring countries, but is also using them directly in military operations against Vietnam. It has become known that about four divisions are composed of the Huaqiao. Terror, violence and marauding reign in the area seized by these divisions. Beijing soldiers are burning down whole villages and shooting peaceful inhabitants. In (Khang Lo) settlement in Lang Son Province of Northern Vietnam they burned down some 100 houses and held a bloody court over all who were late in getting away--old men, women, children. Infants were lifted by their legs and torn apart. Women's stomachs were slit open. Old people were battered with rifle butts. This is how Beijing carries out its hegemonist policy in practice!

China is continuing its aggressive war against Vietnam. It is clear from the Vietnamese and other news agencies that the situation in the area of fighting on 23 February is approximately this:

The most stubborn fighting is going on in the provinces of Quang Ninh, Cao Bang, Lang Son and Lai Chau. Beijing is boosting the number of its troops and equipment to carry on the war of aggression. Vietnamese units are repulsing the interventionist attacks, inflicting casualties on the aggressor and destroying his tanks and artillery.

According to a report by Hanoi radio, in the 5 days which have elapsed since the Chinese invasion the invaders have lost 12,000 soldiers. Some 14 Chinese battalions have either been destroyed or suffered heavy losses. Additionally, 140 Chinese tanks and armored transport vehicles have been destroyed. Particularly heavy fighting has developed in the area of the provincial center of Cao Bang. There, as Radio Hanoi has reported, 9 battalions of Chinese infantry and over 70 tanks have been destroyed. The aggressor is throwing into its invasion new reinforcements from Chinese territory, where army units numbering overall 700,000 men are concentrated in the border zone. Observers believe that interventionist forces in Vietnam now number over 100,000.

Expanding the scale of aggression, last Thursday Beijing brought its aircraft into operation, using them to strike at the positions of the Vietnamese forces. This was reported by the U.S. ASSOCIATED PRESS agency. Another Western agency, REUTER, transmitted a telegram saying that Chinese forces supported by tanks had allegedly broken into the provincial town of Cao Bang. Fierce fighting continues in that area. In the direction of Lao Cai the Chinese forces, having transferred additional troops into that area, have been fighting to expand their bridgehead on the bank of the Red River. The attempts by the interventionists to begin an offensive from the area west of the town of Lao Cai have ended without result. In the direction of Lang Son fighting is under way 10 km north of the provincial center of Lang Son. Stepping up its aggressive action against Vietnam, Beijing is effectively refuting its own lie to the effect that the invasion is of a local nature. Incidentally, this lying version of the Chinese intervention was picked up and inflated by Western propaganda, which was trying thereby to help the aggressor and to conceal the true aims which it is pursuing. Unmasking these aims of Beijing, the deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam stated in Hanoi that China was increasing the number of her forces and military equipment with the intention of occupying a number of areas in Vietnam and of annexing them by force.

The press has reported, writes Kapitonov from Kostroma, and Petrosenko from Chita, that China is seeking to order arms from Western countries. Tell us about this in more detail.

Arms Sales to China

At the present time, according to foreign press data, China's Armed Forces, excluding the People's Militia, number about 4 million men. Over 3 million of them are in the infantry, which means China has the largest infantry in the world. But the Beijing leadership, by all appearances, believes that this is not enough to achieve its expansionist plans. And this is what can explain the launching in China of an accelerated program to increase and modernize the armed forces. China's present industrial potential, however, does not permit it to carry out a program of rearmament on its own. For this reason Beijing has directed its gaze to the West in the hope of solving this problem with Western aid. Chinese military delegations have visited leading Western European countries, NATO members, such as Britain, Italy, France and the FRG. China has proposed to London the purchase of 90 to 100 Harrier vertical takeoff airplanes, each of which costs over 3 million pounds sterling. China then plans to set up its own production of these airplanes on license, with the aid of British specialists. According to preliminary calculations, the overall sum of the deal will be about 1 billion pounds sterling. Signing of the contract is planned for February of this year during British Industry Secretary Varley's visit to China.

As for France, at the end of 1978 reports were being heard about the preparation of a first contract, according to whose terms China would buy 15,000 antitank and antiaircraft missiles from French firms. Beijing does not conceal its desire to acquire modern French Mirage warplanes. Beijing is showing great interest in buying military equipment from the FRG. It has already acquired four of the FRG's latest military helicopters, and it is expected that China will receive 16 more of these machines. All in all, Beijing representatives have given the countries of Western Europe and Japan a list of almost 5,000 types of military equipment.

In an attempt to justify their plans to sell arms to China, Western representatives assert that such sales include only defensive equipment. This is how official London tries to represent its Harrier planes. However, the tactical and technical data on this plane quoted in Jane's Guide show that the Harrier is one of the most modern warplanes in the West. It is capable of carrying nuclear weapons, and London is well aware of the purpose for which Beijing intends to acquire this machine.

U.S. Preelection Campaigns

Judging by the letters we have received, a most lively interest has been aroused among our listeners by the report from the Soviet radio and television correspondent in Washington, Yuriy Soltan, on the U.S. electoral system. Today, at the request of (Barotkin) from Psko and the (Arkadyevs) from Ulyanovsk we shall talk about the preelection campaign, which is already underway in the United States. Over to a regular participant in our program, international affairs journalist Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin. Please, Oleg Nikolayevich:

[Anichkin] Yes, one can say that the preelection campaign in the United States, or as it is often called by the Americans themselves, the lengthy presidential race [dolgaya preszidentskaya gonka] has begun. Although the presidential elections are, perhaps, still a long way off--they will take place in the late autumn of 1980--nonetheless many politicians, if we use sporting terminology, have made a quick start.

Even the political atmosphere in the United States is taking on more and more a preelection hue. The statements of the leaders of the political parties and the speeches of the politicians, in one way or another, have a preelection emphasis. The more experienced politicians remember well that in their time Presidents John Kennedy, Nixon and Carter were victorious to a large extent because of the fact that they began the stubborn preelection struggle at an early date.

As you can see, I have cited the names of Presidents who represent the two bourgeois parties--the Democrats and the Republicans--who take turns holding power in the White House. In other words, it is a question of a preelection struggle in the framework of the so-called two-party system. The American ruling class deftly uses this mechanism to guarantee their interests and to prevent the working people of the United States from approaching the levers of power.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, it is probably the case that now, long before the presedential elections, the political observers are already trying to forecast who will be the candidate for the presidency among the Democrats, who the Republicans will put forward, and who, finally, will be the victor in this protracted and expensive presidential race.

[Anichkin] As far as the Democratic part is concerned, the name of their candidate is known. It is Jimmy Carter, today's president, although he has not yet officially announced his intention to put forward his candidacy for a second term. However, judging from all the evidence, it is clear that he will do so, but probably later, when the time for the so-called primary elections draws near. These will begin toward the end of next winter. During the primary elections the struggle will be waged inside the parties for the purpose of determining their presidential candidates.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, this is so, but nevertheless, from time to time reports come in which say that the governor of the state of California, a young politician with great ambitions, Jerry Brown, intends to challenge Carter.

[Anichkin] Incidentally, this is the son of another Brown, who in the not too distant past often tried to put forward his candidacy for the Democratic Party but had no success. The younger Brown has a reputation for being a liberal. He already has a preelection program, which in many aspects differs from Carter's platform. Attentive observers have also paid attention to the fact that Jerry Brown's positions coincide to a large extent with those of Senator Edward Kennedy.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayvich, there is still a lot of talk about the possibility that the last of the Kennedy brothers will make an attempt to become President of the United States. Surely this name still has magical power for many Americans.

[Anichkin] Yes, quite so. To a large extent this can be explained by the tragic deaths of his two older brothers, one of whom was President and the other was close to this goal. Edward Kennedy himself states that he has no intentions of becoming the Democratic candidate. However, attention is being drawn to the fact that he is now travelling around the country a great deal, making many speeches and is constantly in the eye of the public, on television and in the press. For this reason it is often said that he is behaving like a candidate.

One should note that the zigzags in the development of political events are often unpredictable. In this connection I should like to recall the events in the preelection campaign of 1968, when Robert Kennedy was also refusing at first to put forward his candidacy. But when he saw that another Democratic candidate, Senator Eugene McCarthy, who was running on the same platform, began to win one victory after another during the primary elections, then he decided to join the battle, and his path to the presidency was halted only by the bullet of a murderer at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles when he and his supporters were celebrating their victory in the California primary. So, political analysts are now making the following assumption--that if Brown has success during the primary elections in the struggle against Carter, then Edward Kennedy will evidently have to give serious thought to putting forward his own candidacy.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, from the reports in the U.S. press it is clear that the Republican leadership is now seeking a new politician who might be able to lead this party out of a deep crisis.

[Anichkin] As far as the Republicans are concerned, things are considerably more complex. And not because they do not have any eminent candidates for the presidency: There are more than enough of them. For example, we hear the familiar names of former President Ford, former Governor of California Reagan, and a former governor of Texas and a former member of the cabinet, Connally.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, is that the very same Connally who was travelling in Dallas in the same car as John Kennedy when he was assassinated?

[Anichkin] Yes, it is the very same Connally. Connally himself was wounded then. He was then a Democrat, but he later deserted to the camp of the Republicans, where he felt he would have a better chance of becoming President. To these three figures one can add about half a dozen names of senators, members of the House of Representatives and governors. The list of possible Republican candidates may turn out to be so long that the struggle in this party may be called, in the expression of the Washington POST, a civil war in the Republican ranks. Another newspaper, the New York TIMES, has called the Republican contenders, and I quote, "a professional football team which stubbornly takes its cue from the old defenders and the players who are coming to the end of their careers." The last midterm elections, which were held last autumn, demonstrated that the Republican Party has just not been able to recover from the heavy defeat which it suffered at the last presidential elections.

In this regard, as certain observers believe, General Alexander Haig, who is retiring this summer from his post as commander in chief of NATO and who intends to retire from active service, might turn out to be a suitable figure. This step of the general, at any rate, has been evaluated in political circles as signifying his intention to try out his strength in the political struggle.

Alexander Haig is a well-known figure in the corridors of political power in Washington. In the Republican Nixon administration his career proceeded with great swiftness. He was, at first, military advisor to Henry Kissinger when the latter was the President's adviser for national security affairs. Then he became Kissinger's deputy. During the renowned Watergate scandal Haig moved to the front line of political life in the United States. He became a leader of the White House apparatus and, as has become known now, took an active part in bringing about Nixon's resignation in order to avoid a trial. And after the resignation he persuaded the new president to pardon his former chief. Such loyalty has always been highly valued in the Republican Party and by its leadership.

Haig's military and political views coincide to a large extent with Republican propaganda and the strategy with which they wish to approach the elections. He is in favor of increasing the military might of the United States, which he feels should have no equal. He is one of those who, in his speeches, is constantly disseminating the myth of the Soviet threat. He throws doubt on the military policies of Carter's administration. So if the Republicans allow their choice to rest on Haig, then he, following their designs, may become an effective standardbearer for their slogan--"increase the military might of the United States." Judging from reports in the U.S. press, it is expected that General Haig, one way or another, will assume the role of that new political star with presidential potential which the Republicans are now talking so much about. As to how true these forecasts will be, only the future will tell us. Besides, as you know, making predictions in politics is a very risky business.

Mexican Oil Deposits

[Kosovan] A number of reports have appeared in the press, writes Viktor Petrovich (Peregudov) from Tomsk, from which it is clear that oil deposits comparable with Saudi Arabia's reserves have been discovered in Mexico. How reliable are they?

Yes, according to statements by Mexican officials, Mexico may in the not-too-distant future become one of the major producers of oil. This is confirmed by the U.S. Atlantic Richfield Company, which has compiled a report on this subject from its own sources for the White House. True, the supposed volume of Mexican oil fluctuates from 40 to 200 billion barrels. One barrel equals 159 litres. Moreover, as has now come to light, several Mexican oil engineers knew about this wealth of black gold for a long time, but kept it secret. They feared that the richest national oil deposits might become easy prey for the North American plundering monopolies. The fact that the United States would like to get its hands on the Mexican oil deposits, or at least guarantee for itself regular supplies of this oil at low prices, is highlighted by the visit to Mexico by President James Carter of the United States, which ended the other day.

The oil question was central in the talks between Portillo and Carter. After the crushing defeat for U.S. diplomacy in Iran and the cessation of supplies of Iranian oil, the United States would like to turn Mexico, as EL SOL DE MEXICO has written, into its own military-strategic reserve. But this has not happened. The Mexican president stated decisively that he would be guided above all by the interests of his country.

Shuttle Diplomacy Defined

[Kosovan] In our "dictionary of political terms" section today we shall explain the expression "shuttle diplomacy." This is requested by (Shishchevskiy) from Pyatigorsk, (Grivnin), Kmosomolsk-on-Amur, and other listeners.

The term "shuttle diplomacy" owes it origin to Henry Kissinger, who, when he was U.S. secretary of state, made frequent trips on the Cairo-Tel Aviv route. Since then these visits have been nicknamed "shuttle diplomacy." All in all, between November 1973 and August 1975, Kissinger visited the Near East 10 times, crossing between the Israeli and Egyptian capitals.

"Shuttle diplomacy" has been a major element of Washington's Near East policy, which is to settle the conflict on the basis of a separate peace treaty between Israel and Egypt and to ignore the rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Under the Carter administration the main content of "shuttle diplomacy" is an unconcealed separate bargaining between Cairo and Tel Aviv. These capitals of the two Near Eastern states were visited twice between January and March 1978 by Atherton, special U.S. envoy, in July by U.S. Vice President Mondale, and in August by Secretary of State Vance. After this there was a summit meeting in Camp David among President as-Sadat, Prime Minister Begin and President Carter. The text of a separate treaty was drawn up there. But the Egyptian president, meeting with strong opposition from the majority of Arab countries, for tactical considerations postponed the signing of the treaty and tried to alleviate the criticism directed against him.

The events in Iran, as a result of which the U.S. position in that country was undermined, have forced Washington to begin a new stage of shuttle diplomacy. On President Carter's initiative, last December Secretary of State Vance went to the Near East. He visited Cairo three times and Tel Aviv twice. In January of this year the relay baton of "shuttle diplomacy" was passed on to special envoy Atherton.

But probably the greatest attention was drawn to the unplanned trip to a number of Near East countries, including Israel and Egypt, undertaken by U.S. Defense Secretary Brown. This trip showed quite clearly that at the present stage a separate peace is becoming a means of knocking together a pro-American military bloc in that area. The main role in the proposed alliance will be given to Egypt and Israel, and a separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty is certain to lie as its foundation.

RFE, SWOBODA RADIOS INTENSIFY PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

LD261908 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Viktor Viktorov commentary]

[Text] John Gronouski, chairman of the U.S. Board for International Broadcasting, has presented a demand to Congress for an increase in funds for the Radio Free Europe and Svoboda [Swoboda] broadcasting stations, which broadcast slanderous propaganda against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Our commentator Viktor Viktorov writes that it is no secret that in the last 2 or 3 years the United States has suddenly intensified its psychological warfare. The U.S. propaganda machine has been reorganized and strengthened and a so-called "board" [pol zarzad] for international contacts has been established to coordinate all the propaganda connected with foreign policy. It presides over 10,000 journalists, editors and operations.

The U.S. administration has also taken steps to increase the effectiveness of the provocative radio broadcasts. No expense is spared where money is concerned: $88 million annually flow into Munich, where Svoboda and Free Europe are located, and next year the financing of the radio-saboteurs will cost the U.S. taxpayer $130 million.

The slanted propaganda of the Western radio stations, including the Voice of America, the BBC and Deutsche Welle goes against the spirit of detente and the striving of the nations for mutual understanding and cooperation.

New generous funds earmarked for the servants of the CIA--the Svoboda and Free Europe broadcasting stations--indicate U.S. attempts to expand the program of ideological subversion. The above-mentioned stations, writes the West German weekly DEUTSCHE VOLKSZEITUNG, deal with psychological warfare, thus infringing on the letter and spirit of the Helsinki agreement. By expanding the psychological warfare, the reactionary forces wish to undermine the process of detente. The world's public opinion is at present expressing its anger with China's impudent attacks on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The mass solidarity movement with Vietnam is intensifying. "Hands off Vietnam" is the demand of millions of people. But the U.S. radio propaganda dismisses--with silence--this mass protest movement. It attempts to cheat public opinion; everything is done to divert attention from China's impudent aggression. To serve this aim, a variant about the local character of a border conflict is popularized, which aims to mislead the vigilance of peaceful forces and to give practical encouragement to the aggressor.

Mass media can serve peace and mutual trust but can also spread quarrels through the world among nations and states. It is exactly this kind of venom which is being spread through the world by the Western radio broadcasts which serve the aims of psychological warfare.

BROWN, SCHLESINGER COMMENTS ON USE OF FORCE ASSAILED

Basic U.S. Philosophy

LD270002 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] United States Defense Secretary Harold Brown has said on Sunday the United States is prepared to use military force to protect its oil sources in the Middle East. Echoing his colleague in a separate television interview was Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, who said that the issue of a U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf area is under consideration. Our observer Yuriy Georgiyev has prepared this commentary, and this is what he writes:

Secretary Brown's comments broadcast on the CBS interview program, "Face the Nation," came in a response to questions about Soviet actions in the Middle East. Although the Defense Secretary admitted that the current problems in the region cannot be blamed on the Soviet Union, he nevertheless tossed in the patently contrived accusation that the Russians were allegedly eager to fish in muddy waters. The saber-rattling statements from the two top-ranking administration officials came last Sunday amid growing speculations about an oil shortage in the world was a result of Iran's decision to launch a program of oil conservation. The best possible response that the U.S. administration could think of to such a decision by the new Iranian Government seems to be the threat to use military force. As usual with American officials, it was couched of course in plausible arguments, such as the necessity to protect America's vital interests in the Middle East as well as those of the countries involved.

In other words, it follows from the statements from the administration officials that should the United States decide to intervene militarily in the Middle East, the countries involved are supposed to sit back and relax, perhaps even applaud such a move from the United States. All the more so, according to Secretary Brown, because those wily Russians are so eager to fish in muddy waters. Whatever the arguments to justify America's use of force in the Middle East, behind those arguments crystallizes the basic philosophy, that the United States has a license as a major power to act militarily wherever it sees fit to do so. In other words, the rest of the world should take it for granted that America's position and military power gives it a permanent right to watch over the developments in the world, and influence them to meet its own interests. And whether the nations involved like it or not does not seem to be of any concern to the United States.

If it is not of any concern to the United States, such an approach is certainly troublesome to the nations involved. Thus when a few years ago a similar policy was contemplated by the United States to counter any possible oil embargoes from the Mideast, the countries involved expressed nothing short of a shock. And the countries shocked and angered were not necessarily those opposed to America politically. Among them were such countries as Saudi Arabia, known for its close ties with the United States.

So you see, such rough treatment could cause the loss of a friend. The latest threat to use military force, according to the administration officials, was ostensibly justified by the necessity to protect America's vital sources of energy, such as oil. It's imaginable that the next time some other argument could be offered. Indeed, why not protect U.S. sources of coffee or, say, bananas? Seems to be as plausible a pretext to intervene militarily as any. After all, you can't possibly deprive your countrymen of such staple items in their households.

Oil Countries' National Interests

ID261458 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 26 Feb 79 ID

[Unattributed commentary: "Threat of a U.S. Military Intervention in the Gulf Region"]

[Text] Two U.S. Cabinet members made statements in which they overtly brandished the threat of military intervention in the affairs of the oil producing countries of the Middle East, should these countries conduct an oil policy that would, in the first place, meet their national interests. U.S. Energy Secretary Schlesinger said that the United States will not refrain from resorting to military force to defend--as he put it--its vital oil interests. A similar statement was also made by U.S. Defense Secretary Brown. These statements indicate that Washington is, once again, contemplating resorting to the so-called policy of force in order to safeguard the spots it is plundering in the most important world oil reserves. It is natural, as economists believe, that the United States should be able to offset the effects of the fall in Middle East oil production by raising its own oil production. But as John O'Leary, U.S. deputy energy secretary, put it, the United States is accustomed to solving its energy problems by increasing oil imports. This is quite obvious, as Middle East oil production costs are much less than those of U.S. oil production. Furthermore, the U.S. monopolies reap exorbitant profits from selling transporting and refining crude oil, and from selling ready-made oil byproducts. These oil operations still remain essentially in the hands of the monopolies. On the other hand, the national oil refining industry in the Middle East [words indistinct], and imperialist monopolies resort to various means to impede the development of this important branch of the Middle East oil producing countries' national industry.

However, monopolists are more and more faced with difficulties in imposing their will on the oil producing states, whose peoples strive with increasing zeal to achieve genuine liberation from every aspect of imperialist exploitation. In this respect, the best example is provided by the people of Iran. The new regime now in Iran believes that among its primary tasks is more effective exploitation of the main national wealth--that is, oil--so that the country intends to produce just enought oil to meet its own requirements, and to secure the necessary resources to develop the national economy and raise the standard of living of the Iranian people. But U.S. imperialists do not intend to take into account the national interests of the Middle East oil producing countries; what really matters to them are their personal ambitions. The statements made by the two U.S. Cabinet members, Schlesinger and Brown, suggest that Washington will not fall short of using even military force to defend its oil interests. To this end, special forces have been created. President Carter issued orders to this effect a few months ago.

Open Pressure

ID261838 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 26 Feb 79 ID

["Brazen Threats"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 26, TASS--The United States, which has for long maintained it had no intention to interfere in Middle-East affairs, but act only as the "mediator" in the Camp David talks, now declares through its officials its intention to openly interfere in that region.

Thus, for example, Energy Secretary Schlesinger stated in a television appearance, and with reference to the United States' vital interests in the Persian Gulf area, that if need be, it must resort to military force or a military presence. Schlesinger stressed that the matter of an American military presence in the area is under consideration. Explaining what the United States means by such a "presence," Schlesinger flatly stated that it must include the deployment of servicemen, or, in other words, direct military interference.

U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown was even more candid in a T.V. interview. For safeguarding vital U.S. interests, he threatened, the U S. will resort to any measures, including its military might. Secretary Brown went on to say that he was reluctant to enlarge on the matter in greater detail in public.

Such statements can only be regarded as open pressure on Middle East countries and as a threat of military interference. By resorting to this kind of interventionist policy, the U.S. administration apparently hopes to replace the shah's regime in Iran, used by the United States as a policeman in the Persian Gulf zone, through its notorious "from positions of strength" policy. It is absolutely clear that such an imperialist policy can lead to nothing but a further sharpening of tension, both in that area and beyond its boundaries, and will be strongly condemned by all peace-loving peoples, and will fail miserably in the long run.

U.S. HYPOCRISY, SLANDER ON PRC ANNEXATIONISM DECRIED

LD261625 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[V. Matveyev "Rejoinder" (replika): "An Equivocal Position"]

[Text] From reports now coming in from Beijing, certain details have become known concerning the preparation of the Chinese aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]. Citing conversations with official PRC spokesmen, foreign diplomats in Beijing are pointing out that the decision to attack Vietnam was taken by the Beijing leaders immediately after Deng Xiaoping's return from the United States.

In the light of this fact, the attempts by Washington's official departments to put the aggressor on the same level as the victim of the aggression also assume a quite definite coloration which has nothing in common with the assertions by top U.S. quarters that they want to be "impartial" and are allegedly calling on all sides to show "restraint." For whom are such appeals intended, if account is taken of the fact that Washington is very well informed about the kind of forces which were concentrated by the Chinese side against Vietnam and brought into action for aggressive purposes?

It is clear from Beijing press statements in recent days that, in attacking the SRV, the PRC ruling circles are pursuing overtly annexationist schemes with respect to that socialist country. The Beijing press alleges that the PRC intends to regain some territories which "belonged" to it from "time immemorial." These pronouncements have been reproduced by the British bourgeois press as evidence of Beijing's predatory plans.

And how is official Washington behaving in the meantime? Assistant Secretary of State R. Holbrooke issued a statement on 22 February making slanderous insinuations against the Soviet Union's policy while at the same time hypocritically expatiating on the U.S. desire for "restraint." But the question arises: Who benefits from the kind of restraint, if I may use that term, whereby official Washington displays, both behind the scenes and publicly, an attitude of encouragement toward the aggressor?

It is not out of place to recall that Mr Holbrooke was one of the participants in recent behind-the-scenes talks with Beijing, and that in another recent speech in Washington he admitted that, in their relations with the United States, the Chinese leaders are guided primarily by anti-Soviet objectives. He observed that from the "strategic viewpoint" the United States should meet the PRC halfway. This was said at a time when Washington's top circles already knew about the attack that the PRC was preparing against Vietnam! This is the kind of company in which certain U.S. officials, who assert that they intend to do nothing to complicate even further the situation in Southeast Asia, have found themselves.

Is this not an attitude which encourages the aggressor? It is not surprising that more and more influential U.S. politicians, not to mention the public, are expressing alarm about this "ambiguous"--to put it mildly--position of official Washington on an issue on which maximum clarity and positiveness is needed in condemning aggressive actions which threaten the foundations of peace, not just in Southeast Asia.

CONGRESSMAN EVANS CALLS FOR DENUNCIATION OF INVASION

LD270804 Moscow TASS in English 0756 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Washington, February 27, TASS--Billy Evans, member of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, who had visited Vietnam a few days ago, said that China had committed an armed aggression against Vietnam and the U.S. administration should emphatically denounce this invasion as an act of undisguised aggression. He pointed out that the stand taken by the United States had bewildered Southeast Asia and created the impression in the countries of that region that the United States administration passively approved of the Chinese actions.

Evans, who had inspected the battle area in northeast Vietnam with a group of foreign correspondents, said at a press conference that he had seen for himself the tremendous destruction caused by Chinese military to civilian objectives. He added that industrial and economic objectives and homes had been demolished in the town of Lao Cai and that neighbouring villages had been set alight. The representative pointed out that the morable and fighting spirit of the Vietnamese were very high, notwithstanding the fierce fighting. The Vietnamese were confident that they would give a rebuff to the aggressors.

Evans pointed out that in recent years Beijing had been conducting malicious provocative propaganda against neighbouring states, instigating the Chinese living there to conduct subversive activity against the local authorities and threatening them if they refused to do so. Evans emphasized that the United States administration must denounce Beijing's aggression and take effective steps for the earliest possible normalisation of relations with the SRV.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS OF U.S., ACCOMPLICES IN ASIA SCORED

LD221551 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[Yu. Lugovskoy article: "How the United States Is 'Leaving' Asia"]

[Text] It looks as though certain U.S. figures have somewhat modified the well-known English gentlemen's custom of leaving without saying goodbye. [paragraph continues]

They are saying goodbye but staying. This applies directly to U.S. policy in Asia. It is appropriate to recall that soon after the 1976 presidential elections the new U.S. administration made statements designed to create the impression that the United States was "leaving" Asia. To all appearances these promises were aimed at insuring that the U.S. public would forget Washington's Vietnam adventure.

Now an end has been put to any talk of U.S. Armed Forces leaving Asia. Completely different speeches are now being heard across the Atlantic. Speeches about how they must consolidate their hold in Asia on new frontiers, strengthen U.S. military might, find new allies there and so forth.

The "new" U.S. doctrine for Asia set forth by Defense Secretary Harold Brown counts on strength as the main instrument of U.S. policy. In the next 5 years the United States intends to introduce new nuclear-powered cruisers and submarines, cruise missiles, and additional formations of F-14 and F-15 fighters in this region. In the event of an "emergency situation" the Pentagon's plans provide for the dispatch of five more aircraft carriers to Asian shores.

The United States wants to build up its military presence in Asia by maintaining treaty relations with all its allies. Above all Japan and South Korea in the east, Israel in the west, and Australia and island operational bases in the south seas around Asia are the Pentagon's "strongholds" in Asia.

U.S.-Japanese military cooperation has recently acquired new yardsticks and forms. The United States has insisted that its Japanese ally take on an even larger share of expenditure on the maintenance of U.S. troops on the Japanese islands. At talks between the two countries there have recently been frequent discussions of plans for possible joint operations by U.S. and Japanese armed forces beyond Japan in the region of the south seas around Asia under the pretext of patrolling important sea lanes.

The policy of strength is also expressed in U.S. diplomacy's constant attempts to reorganize the system of military blocs and bases in Asia, to galvanize alliances like ANZUS and CENTO, to throw together a military bloc in the Far East and in the Red Sea region, and to find a replacement for the defunct SEATO. To this end, Washington is not abandoning its attempts to push the members of ASEAN--the Association of Southeast Asian Nations--toward military cooperation.

The loss of a whole series of continental bases has forced the U.S. strategists to resort to more thorough concealment--to transfer their presence to islands "beyond the horizon." One of these islands is Diego Garcia, in the center of the Indian Ocean. Through the Pentagon's efforts, it has been transformed into a modern military outpost designed to serve as a sort of springboard for interference in the internal affairs of littoral states. New bases are being constructed and old ones modernized around Asia's perimeter--in the Persian Gulf, on the Arabian Sea coast, and in Australia and Japan. Bases are being constructed on Micronesian islands in the Pacific like Tinian, Saipan, Palau, Kwajalein, and others. Together with the base of Guam they are to form a kind of frontier from which the Pentagon can control strategically important outlets from the Pacific into the Indian Ocean. As a result of recent talks with the Philippines, the United States has retained its bases in that country. The Pentagon has also "frozen" the fulfillment of the previously adopted decision to withdraw its ground forces from South Korea.

According to the New York TIMES and several other foreign sources, there are now about 140,000 U.S. servicemen, 6 aircraft carriers, and over 20 air squadrons in the region of Southeast Asia and the Pacific. In addition there are 10 nuclear-powered submarines based on Guam. At least 1,700 tactical nuclear weapons are emplaced at U.S. bases in Asia. A further 2,500 such weapons are permanently onboard U.S. Navy ships operating in this region. The Pentagon and its allies have recently conducted a series of large-scale maneuvers in the Gulf of Siam and South Korea, off the Australian coast and in the Arabian Sea.

People in Asia have no illusions about the true function of all these military preparations. The references to the interests of peace used to justify them are nothing but a mask of pretence just like the phoney references to the mythical "Soviet threat." Washington is worried that an upsurge in the national liberation movement is occurring in the Indian Ocean countries and the struggle for democratic and progressive transformations is being stepped up.

This development of events is causing concern among U.S' imperialist circles. Speaking at the Foreign Policy Association recently, Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's national security assistant, raised the alarm with respect to the fact that the interests of U.S. security are being jeopardized. "An arc of crises fringes the Indian Ocean," Brzezinski stated. "And there is a danger that unstable social and political structures in a region of vital significance to the United States will collapse." "Unstable structures" here clearly means regimes advantageous to the United States.

At the end of last year the New York TIMES reported a new analysis by the Brookings Institution on the use of U.S. Armed Forces to support foreign policy actions. The authors of the analysis, the well-known American military policy specialists Barry Blechman and Stephen Caplan, came to the conclusion that as memories of the Vietnam war blur the United States can make freer use of its armed forces for political purposes.

If we compare these conclusions with recent events surrounding Iran, it is not hard to understand the logic of U.S. actions in this region. The press has reported that Washington is now nurturing plans to create a new military bloc in the Near East. The press points out that this is precisely the aim of U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown's visit to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt. In the opinion of NEWSDAY, this bloc "is to compensate the United States for the loss of Iran" whose regime under the shah was a guarantor of U.S. military-economic interests in this region. At the same time attention is attracted by Brown's statement announcing plans to use U.S. "mobile forces" under "exceptional circumstances" in the Persian Gulf region. These forces, he said, "could react rapidly to disorders in this region."

It must also be noted that the reorientation of Beijing's foreign policy stemming from the Maoist ruling clique's class treachery was one of the motives for the development of such plans for Asia. The United States was not slow to use the "special position" of the Maoists, who had gained a good reputation as fierce opponents of the spread of detente to Asia.

Commentators note that in the development of U.S. policy in Asia obvious preference is given to ties with Beijing over relations with India and the other nonalined Asian countries. For what purpose? The answer to this question can be found in the book "New-Style Chinese Policy" prepared by the Rand Corporation research center. [paragraph continues]

In particular, it states that a "successful policy with respect to China can greatly promote the reduction of expenditure and risk connected with fulfilling U.S. commitments in Southeast and Northeast Asia."

The Pentagon's Asian strategy is built with consideration for the "Chinese factor." Beijing is urging the Pentagon "not to leave" Asia. China's official representatives have frequently made it clear that they approve the Japanese-U.S. military pact and have an understanding attitude toward U.S. plans to expand its network of military bases in Asia.

It is perfectly obvious that, in conniving at U.S. military preparations in Asia, Beijing is also building its own calculations on this basis. These calculations consist above all in obtaining access to NATO arsenals. Having bought the latest models of armaments in the West, Beijing is counting on achieving considerable military superiority over any country in South Asia. In addition, the Beijing leadership would apparently like to secure a promise that the United States will not interfere in those cases where Beijing next displays its expansionist appetites with respect to its neighbors in southern Asia. These calculations are not unfounded. After all, it is well known that the United States took a position of "favorable neutrality" with respect to China when Chinese troops landed on the Paracel Islands in 1974 and committed acts of aggression against India, and in a number of other cases.

Attention must be drawn to the fact that the establishment of Sino-U.S. diplomatic relations coincided with the Chinese Foreign Ministry statement making claims to the Spratly Islands. Western sources confirm that the Chinese command is moving some of its troops from the coast opposite Taiwan and transferring them to the border with Vietnam. Chinese acts of provocation against Vietnam are being increasingly intensified. And it is not insignificant that the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR has noted that China's new relations with the United States are being formed in such a way that they "encourage China's aggressiveness."

In encouraging the expansionism of Mao's successors in Beijing some U.S. leaders would evidently like to cause new confrontations and complications in Asia which would give the United States the pretext it is seeking to interfere. Some people in the United States are obviously tempted to create some sort of three-sided alliance based on the Japanese-U.S. security treaty and the treaty concluded recently between China and Japan.

An understanding of the danger of the military preparations of the United States and its accomplices is becoming increasingly widespread in Asia--an understanding expressed in the activation of the movement against military bases and in the intensification of the struggle for real security on this continent.

U.S. CIVILIAN SUPPORT PERSONNEL IN IRAN, ELSEWHERE DANGEROUS

LD271007 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 8, 16 Feb 79 pp 22-23 LD

[A. Kapikrayan article: "White-Collar Mercenaries"]

[Text] "The biggest and most dramatic exodus of Americans since the evacuation of Saigon" was how the Washington POST assessed the U.S. State Department order for the evacuation of Americans from Iran, which looked more like a rout. Many of the "specialists" now leaving that country are the so-called "white-collar mercenaries" whose activity has recently been attracting increasingly close attention from the public and the press.

The appearance of a new type of mercenary, a kind of "civilian lansquenet" who sells his military-technical knowledge, dates from the early seventies or, to be more precise, from 1972, when President Nixon decided to sell the shah of Iran virtually any military materiel and to provide an unlimited number of personnel to service that materiel. Since then Iran has absorbed U.S. weapons worth more than $8 billion, including the most sophisticated aircraft, ships, and diverse electronic detection systems. By 1976 26,000 U.S. "mercenary-specialists" had already settled in Iran, and their number was to have doubled by 1980.

The subsequent stream of highly sophisticated U.S. weapons pouring into Iran also fueled other countries which previously had to content themselves with obsolete equipment offered to them under military aid programs. According to U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency figures, 3,560 tanks and self-propelled guns, 63 large surface ships and 22 submarines, 593 supersonic combat aircraft and 10,035 missiles of various kinds had been supplied by 1975 to the developing countries of Latin America, Asia and Africa (excluding the oil-producing countries). However, the main purchasers, which in 1978 accounted for more than half of the military materiel exported by the United States, are the states of the Near and Middle East: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Israel and Egypt. The smaller countries of this region were not neglected either. Over a period of 3 years Kuwait, for instance, purchased 42 Skyhawk fighter-bombers, 1,800 Tow antitank missiles, several Bell helicopters and other weapons.

It is perfectly clear that, even for a well-trained army, the assimilation of weapons on such a scale would create tremendous problems. But for most Third World countries, which do not have the necessary skilled cadres, these problems are simply insoluble without outside help.

There was a time when this help was mainly given by military personnel attached to military missions and to groups of "advisers" abroad. These functions are now primarily carried out by civilian experts working "on contract." As a rule, they are employees of the firms which manufacture the weapons. Frequently military equipment is sold only on condition that U.S. companies will look after the servicing. Thus Northrop's commitments under its $2.8 million (Pis Khok) program in Saudi Arabia include the delivery of 110 F-53E and F-5F fighters, the creation of an infrastructure, the training of Saudi pilots and mechanics, the organization of a supply and transshipment service, and also work on local servicing and repair of equipment. To solve these tasks Northrop sent 1,134 Americans to Saudi bases in mid-1978. Until recently about 1,000 U.S. technicians were working in Iran for Grumman, servicing the 80 F-14 Tomcat aircraft sold to the shah in 1974.

The export of military-technical services is an extremely profitable business. According to U.S. Defense Security Assistance Agency figures, the provision of these services under the government program netted weapons manufacturers $2.45 billion in 1975-1977. To this must be added the $1 billion obtained over the same period by U.S. firms from deals beyond the scope of this program.

The "white-collar mercenaries" were not badly treated either. In 1975 1,000 (Vinnell) corporation employees hired in Saudi Arabia received $1,800 per month, enjoyed free accommodation, and when their contracts expired, received a bonus of $2,400 each. Naturally, supervisory workers and highly skilled technicians were paid far more for their services.

But where do the corporations derive their cadres of "specialists" for hire? The majority are former servicemen. The demand for retired generals is particularly high, and having become "white-collar mercenaries," in the words of (M. Klar), an employee of the Washington Institute of Policy Research, they are "guaranteed long-term work with a salary double or treble that which they would receive at the end of their career in the Pentagon." [paragraph continues]

Thus, Retired Brigadier General (Kristadoro) headed the TRW aerospace corporation's team of consultants in Iran. General Oden was placed at the head of 1,500 employees--for the most part retired servicemen--sent to Iran by the Bell Helicopter Company. According to the U.S. magazine AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, Rockwell International, instructed by the shah's government to plan, build and commission an electronic data collection system (the Ibex project), selected a special group of former CIA agents and National Security Agency employees to train the Iranian personnel.

Nor does the profitability of the new business leave the U.S. West European NATO partners indifferent. This is evidenced by the weapons production contracts concluded by Britain and France with the Arab Military Industry Organization (AMIO). The contracts provide for the dispatch of a large number of civilian technicians to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other AMIO member countries. Under an agreement concluded earlier, the British aircraft corporation will train Saudi Air Force pilots and ground staff to operate its Lightning combat aircraft and will also carry out the technical servicing of the entire Saudi Air Force, whether or not the aircraft were supplied by Britain or by other countries. A major contingent of foreign "white-collar personnel" is also participating in weapons manufacture programs being carried out by such countries as Turkey, Indonesia, the Philippines and South Korea.

It does not end there. Certain companies are starting to offer specialized services extending far beyond the framework of the ordinary servicing of complex weaponry or the planning, building and organization of the work of new military plants. These services are provided in such spheres as radar surveillance, air traffic control, communications, the processing of intelligence data, that is, in fields which are vitally important for a modern army and on which the functioning of the war machine is most directly dependent. In essence, it is a question of hired specialists gaining access to supervisory posts in the military departments of a number of developing countries, into the "nerve-centers" of the army organism. This circumstance, like the very presence of thousands of "mercenary-specialists," carries with it a considerable potential danger. In the event of hostilities, the U.S. magazine NATION writes, it is obvious that U.S. specialists will be embroiled from the very outset. The danger of "white-collar personnel" being involved in the military actions of countries where they are resident and moreover in regional conflicts is also causing alarm in the United States itself. Thus, in 1976 the Senate Foreign Relations Committee gave the prophetic warning: "By selling Iran the latest weapons--moreover, in large quantities--the United States is assuming substantial and ever-increasing responsibility for its upkeep. Anti-Americanism could become a serious problem in Iran."

The growth of anti-American sentiments in countries where there are U.S. "experts" is exacerbated by friction with local personnel. Judging by certain statements published in the press, almost all Americans take a suspicious attitude toward the military men with whom they have to "consult."

However, despite all the problems that arise, U.S. commitments continue to expand rapidly. Thus, for example, the technical services and other nonmaterial military exports to Saudi Arabia which require the local presence of a large number of skilled specialists will this year reach, according to preliminary data, $3 billion.

To what can this policy be attributed? To the vast profits which it brings the weapons manufacturing corporations, of course. The sale of military-technical knowledge now occupies an important place in Washington's global strategy by fettering customer-countries to the U.S. war machine. [paragraph continues]

And here the United States is also seeking to insure control for itself over the use of the weapons being acquired. The primary calculation is that the developing countries will have to depend indefinitely on U.S. and other Western countries' aid in the military sphere, since many of them are buying weapons faster than they can train the necessary specialists. For example, a group of U.S. engineers and instructors from the Grumman firm, according to some estimates, would have to remain in Iran as long as the F-14 was in service, that is, probably up to the year 2000.

There is yet another consideration, disclosed last October by the French magazine LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE. The shah's purchases of complex weaponry, the magazine wrote, were a pretext for allowing tens of thousands of U.S. military men, called "technical advisers," to establish themselves in Iran to instruct the army in the mastery of these weapons. In fact, in strategic respects, these Americans played the part of a "camouflaged army protecting the Persian Gulf oilfields and spying on the southern flank of the Soviet Union."

At the same time it was thought that this "camouflaged" army could also be used to defend regimes which were looked upon favorably by the United States, be they in Iran or in some other country.

However, the scale which the people's movement in Iran assumed negated all the plans of these Pentagon strategists and military-industrial monopolies. Moreover, military orders worth about $10 billion have already been revoked; these provided, in particular, for the delivery of 160 F-16 fighters, 400 Phoenix air-to-air missiles, and 7 aircraft for the AWACS system. And the specialists working under the old contracts have been forced to go back where they came from--something which, in the words of the Washington POST, "serves as most convincing evidence of the abrupt fall in the Americans' ability to influence events in a country which even a few months ago was considered a bastion of Western interests in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean." Nevertheless, according to press reports, the Pentagon is planning to send U.S. troops to Iran to seize airports on the pretext of "insuring security for the evacuation" of 7,000 Americans still left there, most of whom are military-technical experts. This shows once again how dangerous the presence of "white-collar mercenaries" on the territory of a sovereign country is.

MORE ON WESTERN OFFICIALS' VISITS TO PRC

West's 'Collusion' With PRC

LD262336 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1819 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

["Playing With Fire"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 26 February, TASS--TASS political observer Oleg Anichkin writes:

Whatever they may say, everything is happening as if it had been written into a previously agreed scenario. Visiting Beijing almost simultaneously are Britain's Secretary of State for Industry E. Varley, U.S. Treasury Secretary M. Blumenthal and president of the EEC commission R. Jenkins.

Each of them has his own official reason for making this trip to China. But such reasons are more like justifications since these trips are taking place at a time when the whole world is angrily protesting the Chinese emperors' insolent aggression in Vietnam.

For in such a situation it is hard to convince world public opinion that the trip to Beijing by a member of the U.S. Cabinet is for nothing more than the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Beijing and holding talks with officials there. And who could believe the official version of the purpose of the British minister's trip (to hold negotiations on the participation of British firms in the "program for Chinese industrialization")? It is no accident that the entire world press is writing that this trip is linked primarily with Britain's intention to sell Harrier vertical takeoff fighters to China. R. Jenkins, it is maintained, intends "only" to read a lecture on the Common Market in Beijing.

However, it is clear from the reports by Western European journalists in China that it is more likely that he will be on the receiving end of a lecture from Beijing officials. The FRANCE PRESS correspondent in Beijing notes that the Chinese openly want the Nine to show their solidarity in relation to what Beijing calls the "Soviet threat."

And however much M. Blumenthal expressed his "anxiety in connection with the situation in Southeast Asia," in an address at a Beijing banquet, and however much the Americans and Chinese try "to hold trade talks without too much ado," one thing is clear: The trips to Beijing by the U.S. treasury secretary, the British secretary of state for industry and other visitors can only be assessed as a gesture of approval of Chinese actions against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The New York TIMES writes that the United States "is demonstrating silent support for the Chinese interference in Vietnam." And not only silent support. According to reports from Western information agencies, the U.S. aircraft carrier Constellation has left its naval base in the Philippines and has set out for the South China Sea, that is, nearer to the shores of Vietnam. It is not hard to guess in whose support this showing of the U.S. flag is being carried out.

Certain circles in Washington were clearly impressed by the Beijing leaders' statements that China "would teach Vietnam a lesson." But they probably have short memories. The Americans quite recently attempted to teach the Vietnamese such a lesson, and the whole world knows how that undertaking ended.

Political observers are debating the question of how the prospects for settling important international problems will take shape in connection with Beijing's aggression against Vietnam.

Most concur in the opinion that China represents a destructive factor in international relations, with all the consequences deriving from this.

In the words of the West German STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, "China is behaving like a great power state, reckoning that it can resort to force, but in the atomic age such actions are irresponsible. At no time during the period of rapprochement with the West has China concealed the fact that it rejects the policy of detente. Last week the Chinese showed the world how dangerous it is to conclude (?close) contacts with them.

Beijing's irrational actions, the expansion of its aggression in Vietnam, the obvious collusion of the West in its expansionist policy--all this undoubtedly leads to an increase in tension, and not only in Southeast Asia. China's actions may have a negative effect on the international atmosphere as a whole, particularly at a time when exceptionally important negotiations on disarmament are being conducted in Geneva and Vienna, in addition to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

The solution of these problems is of vital importance for the whole of mankind, and China must not be permitted to deal in such an unpardonable way with the will and aspirations of the peoples of the earth, who thirst for peace, tranquility and prosperity.

Wang Zhen, Varley Dinner Speeches

LD262302 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Another high-level Chinese military delegation will soon visit Britain. The announcement has been made in Beijing by senior Vice Premier Wang Zhen who spoke at a banquet honoring the British Industry Secretary Eric Varley. In his reply speech the British official said he was hopeful that the two sides will sign other contracts besides one covering a big consignment of Harrier fighter aircraft. The Chinese also want to obtain British licences for the production of these aircraft in their own country.

A number of political and public figures have come out against the proposed British arms sales to Beijing. Labor spokesman Frank Allaun stressed that the arms supplies to Beijing increased the threat of war in the world because of China's attack on Vietnam.

Western Press Comment

LD270946 Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 27, TASS--The TASS political commentator, Yevgeniy Babenko, writes:

After thoroughly analysing Western bourgeois press comments on China's aggression against Vietnam, the Italian newspaper UNITA drew the conclusion that they mainly boil down to an expression of open sympathy and understanding of Beijing, justification of the connivance of the United States and other NATO powers and manifestation of furious hatred for the socialist community. UNITA qualifies as one of the distinguishing features of this smear propaganda "the utter lack of awareness of the threat the present events in Southeast Asia constitute for the destiny of the world".

This pronouncement by the newspaper can also be applied to the whole series of visits which highranking Western representatives, as if nothing had happened, are making these days to Beijing, the capital of a country, which is conducting and expanding open aggression against its sovereign neighbour.

Among them are the mission of Roy Jenkins, president of the commission of the European Communities, the official visits by Michael Blumenthal, the U.S. secretary of the treasury, and Eric Varley, Britain's secretary of state for industry. The governor of the state of Alaska Jay Hammond is now also in Beijing on a commercial and friendly mission.

The Western visitors not only obstinately pretend that "nothing has happened", but some of them with amazing bluntness declare in public that the development of relations between their countries and China is in no way interconnected with Beijing's attack on Vietnamese territory.

World opinion, however, holds quite different views. It displays growing anxiety, assessing the above-mentioned visits as factual support and encouragement of the aggressor. The Washington POST acknowledges that these visits are taking place at a moment when tension had been aggravated in Asia following the Chinese invasion of the SRV.

Under the heading "Who Supports Aggression", the French L'HUMANITE emphasizes that the continuation and expansion of the Chinese aggression against Vietnam is facilitated by the open connivance of the Western countries. "All the efforts the United States and its allies are now exerting, the newspaper says, are aimed at justifying China's action".

It is noteworthy that Yugoslavia also landed in this company: XINHUA reports that a protocol on scientific and technical cooperation between China and Yugoslavia for 1979 has just been signed in Beijing.

The London OBSERVER warns in its latest issue that the West should display extreme caution vis-a-vis China. But, judging from everything, this and other sober voices which are resounding ever more vigorously in many Western countries do not reach the sponsors and masterminds behind the visits to the aggressor.

U.S. Encourages PRC Aggression

LD261812 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[From "The World Today" program]

[Excerpt] Beijing keeps silent about the developments on the battlefields, for its schemes of an easy incursion into Vietnam have not materialized. The fact that fresh Chinese contingents are being moved to the border indicates that Beijing plans to expand its aggression. And meanwhile the American secretary of the treasury, Michael Blumenthal, has been serenely attending Chinese ceremonies in Beijing, making complimentary toasts at banquets and assuring the Beijing leaders that relations between the United States and China have nothing to do with Chinese invasion of Vietnam. In a couple of days the minister will represent the American President at the opening of an American embassy in Beijing. All that at the height of China's aggression.

What is this if not a direct encouragement of the aggression? The banal American calls for ending the fighting sound as sheer hypocrisy in this context, as the New York POST has stated. Accusations that the White House is encouraging Chinese aggression rest on solid ground.

The American stand at the Security Council has also come in for a great deal of comment. America's attempts to divert the blow, so to speak, from the Chinese aggressor by throwing on the so-called Kampuchean problem are like advising the people who have rushed in to put out the fire to open a debate on the way of life of the victim's neighbor.

PRC MEDIA CENSORS NEWS ABOUT ATTACK ON VIETNAM

ID231430 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Beijing, February 23, TASS--The Chinese mass media reports actually nothing about the fighting on the territory of Vietnam. In effect, it is keeping the Chinese people totally ignorant of China's aggression against Vietnam and the indignation this aggression has evoked among the world public.

Under threat of severe punishment the Beijing authorities categorically prohibited the posting of any wall posters and also the listening of foreign radio broadcasts. Meetings and assemblies are banned in all provinces except those adjacent to the front, and local authorities have been ordered not to answer any question by the population about the hostilities.

It has become known in press circles here that the Chinese Foreign Ministry continues to circulate among foreign diplomats the totally false story about the "limited nature" of the Chinese military operations in Vietnam. It was in this vein that conversations were held these days with the ambassadors of Japan, France, the FRG and also of ASEAN countries.

It has also become known from these circles that the Chinese are doing this in an attempt to conceal the true scale of the Chinese aggression against Vietnam and at the same time to dampen the wave of condemnation that has risen in the whole world because of the Chinese aggression and in mounting as the Chinese are escalating the hostilities.

BEIJING SEEKS TO CREATE DISHARMONY BETWEEN U.S., USSR

LD261415 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Aleksandr Petrov commentary]

[Text] The Chinese aggression against Vietnam remains at the center of attention of the world's press. Even the bourgeois press sess Beijing's action as a dangerous step. It has much to say about the motives for the Chinese invasion of Vietnam, but as a rule does not name the main causes. A clear and precise characterisation of Beijing's criminal action, the writer on international affairs Aleksandr Petrov noted, was given a week ago in the Soviet government's declaration.

These aggressive actions by China, it said, which run counter to the principles of the United Nations and grossly violate international law, expose to the whole world the true nature of the hegemonistic policy of Beijing in Southeast Asia. Yet the Chinese invasion has not only regional, as it were, aims, but is determined by the global anti-Soviet policy of Mao's successors. One not unimportant result of the Vietnam adventure, according to the designs of the Chinese leadership, is meant to be the creation of complications for the process of detente in general, and for U.S.-Soviet relations in particular. It is obvious that Washington's tacit blessing of China's attack on Vietnam, and its rapprochement with Beijing, against the background of the present bloody aggression against Socialist Vietnam, cannot help the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations. The Chinese leaders have always striven to bring about a confrontation between the USSR and the United States, in order to use it in their own interests. The calculations of the Beijing politicians have been, and are, built on the mad conception of the inevitability of a new world war, which is supposed to begin, in the opinion of the present Chinese Mandarins, between the Soviet Union and the United States. The present Chinese rulers see it as their main task to do all they can to worsen relations between these two countries.

Unfortunately, the U.S. administration is playing up to their anti-Soviet policy. Connivance with Beijing's aggression against Vietnam is one more example of such flirtation. But those who regard politics as a card game probably forget the rule that in no game of chance is there a system that guarantees a win. China's anti-Vietnamese adventure will pay no dividends either to China itself or to its Western patrons. There is no doubt that the heroic Vietnamese people, shoulder-to-shoulder with whom stands the Soviet Union and the other countries of socialism, will defeat the aggressors, and thereby foil the treacherous plans of the opponents of detente and peace.

COMMENTARY ON CLOSER PRC-ISRAEL RELATIONS

LD231110 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Why Is There Rapprochement Between China and Israel?"]

[Text] Chinese-Israeli contacts have substantially increased since the recent visit of the Chinese deputy premier, Deng Xiaoping, to the United States. Representatives of the various American Zionist organizations have started to visit Beijing. The Canadian JEWISH NEWS wrote a few days ago that preparations are being made in Beijing and Tel Aviv to establishment diplomatic relations between China and Israel. This was also pointed out by Reuter. What is the reason behind the rapprochement between the two countries?

As was indicated by the China mail not long ago, the deputy Israeli consul in Hong Kong said that China has no reason to ignore Israel, because China is closer from the social and ideological points of view to Israel than to the Arabs.

What flagrant frankness: The ruling quarters in both countries are guided in their foreign policy by the iedology of war and the occupation of others' land. Being confirmed that China, which waged an aggressive war against Vietnam, did so because it, like Israel, also claims others' land and is trying to apply the laws of the jungle in international relations--that is, the laws of imposing one's will, violence and terror and the enslaving of other peoples.

The militarism of the hegemonist Chinese and the Israeli invaders pushes them closer together. At the same time this rapprochement is being regarded as the result of Beijing's changing tactics which serve the strategic objectives of its policy of leadership. What is the essence of these tactics? It is very well known that Deng Xiaoping visited the United States primarily to acquire the most advanced weapons. The Beijing leaders are preparing their army for a world war. But 60 to 70 percent of the U.S. military industrial complex is supervised by Zionist capital which is the main support of Israel. The Zionist Lehman family which owns billions of dollars, together with the Zionists of the Lazar brothers company, for instance, supervise the huge general American investors establishment. The Lehman family also owns a large number of companies which manufacture military aircraft and is active in the finances of General Dynamics which plays a prominent role in the sale of weapons and modern nuclear missile technology.

It is also known that Zionists with billions of dollars generously finance the Zionist lobby in the U.S. Congress, which in fact dictates the pro-Israel Washington policy. This lobby is considered a political support for Israel in the United States. Beijing attaches great importance to the establishment of close relations with Zionist capital in the United States and with the Zionist lobby.

In return for loans and equipment from this capital, China agrees to an alliance with the Zionists against the Arabs.

The Lebanese AN-NIDA rightly wrote lately that Beijing hints its readiness to recognise Tel Aviv to win the support of the Zionist lobby in Congress, on whom the fate of the loans and capital requested by the Maoists for the implementation of their chauvinist plans depends.

Thus, the alliance between Tel Aviv and Beijing is based on expansionist objectives. This alliance is directed against the Arab peoples and the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. It is known that Beijing supported the capitulationist Camp David agreements and it calls, like Tel Aviv, for the establishment of an aggressive military alliance in the Middle East under the patronage of the United States, and the escalation of the arms race in this region. It also strives to undermine Arab-Soviet friendship, which is growing stronger.

The treacherous aggression waged by China against Socialist Vietnam indicates what the Arabs can expect from Beijing, whose actions are causing deep indignation among all honest people in the world to whom peace, freedom and independence are dear.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS FRENCH CP CRITICISMS OF PRC POLICIES

LD191055 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "China: The Past Prevails"]

[Text] Paris--The French Communist Party [PCF] journal CAHIERS DU COMMUNISME has published an article in which it examines certain aspects of the domestic and foreign policy of the present Chinese leadership.

The results of the Cultural Revolution, which still have not been definitively summed up, the article observes, are not only negative but indeed grievous. That period led to China's lagging behind in all spheres. Human casualties were far more considerable than was earlier thought.

During the Cultural Revolution, the author writes, social erosion occurred, and it is continuing to this day. The urban crime rate has increased. Gangs of young people have formed in the cities consisting of unemployed youths and those who fled their forced rustication during the Cultural Revolution and secretly returned home. A definite demoralization of the population in general can be observed. But the main thing is that the Chinese leadership is not abandoning all the concepts of the Cultural Revolution, which was characterized by bloodshed and crime.

The journal stresses that, as before, China's population is burdened by the past which was characterized by savage repressions and this is intensifying the dissatisfaction with the Chinese leadership's present policy.

The "four modernizations" have been made the center of China's domestic political life. But the tasks of obtaining 400 million tons of grain and smelting 60 million tons of steel in 1985 can be regarded as utopian. The "new course" could also entail tension and an intensification of the contradictions within society.

Moreover, the article goes on, it is impossible not to perceive the contradiction which exists between the set task--that of transforming China into a powerful and self-sufficient country by the year 2000--and its growing dependence on the imperialist states. China is already concluding subcontracting agreements with Hong Kong and Japanese firms under which China undertakes to provide cheap manpower in return for foreign currency.

It is clear that China's foreign policy continues to provoke anxiety, and in this sphere the disagreements between the PCF and the Chinese leaders still persist, even if they are not being further exacerbated, the journal observes.

It goes on to write: How is it possible to declare support for the liberation struggle of the developing countries' peoples while at the same time preparing to receive Pinochet in China? Is it possible to exert every effort in an attempt to destabilize the situation in Angola, and to engage in subversive activity against the Angolan Government which is facing the racists of the Republic of South Africa, and on the other hand to talk about independence for Namibia and Zimbabwe? Is it possible to side with As-Sadat and the PLO simultaneously? And is it reasonable to back the overthrown regime in Kampuchea and hamper the consolidation of socialist forces in Vietnam? All this is damaging the peoples' national liberation struggle. As for the notorious "three worlds theory" to which the Chinese leaders adhere, this theory, the journal stresses, takes imperialism under its wing.

PRC EXPANDING NAVY TO FACILITATE REGIONAL HEGEMONISM

OW250605 Moscow Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 24 Feb 79 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] According to a radio broadcast from Yunnan Province in southern China on 21 February, Deng Xiaoping, one of China's naval leaders, emphatically pointed out that it was necessary to build the Chinese Navy into a powerful, modern armed force as soon as possible.

Why does China need to build a powerful navy? Why is the Beijing leadership now openly discussing the task of quickly strengthening the Chinese Navy and its combat ability? It should be pointed out that the Chinese Navy is already quite strong. It has a total of more than 1,500 warships, including a fleet of 40 destroyers, nearly 70 submarines and nearly 1,000 torpedo boats. Moreover, China also has 70 Marine division-regiments [shituan]. This is many times the combined naval force of the ASEAN members. The Chinese naval force is fully capable of safeguarding China's coastal areas, especially when no countries are threatening China. But if we recall China's vast territorial claims on other countries, we can see more clearly the meaning of Beijing's attempt to strengthen its naval power. Everybody knows that the Beijing leadership has overtly and officially reasserted its claim on the South China Sea and the islands in this area, including islands claimed by the Philippines, Malaysia and Vietnam. Five years ago, China encroached on the Hsisha Islands, and China's ships have repeatedly intruded into Vietnam's territorial waters. The criminal invasion of the Chinese troops in India in 1962 and China's current savage invasion of Vietnam show that Beijing's present rulers are always ready to wage a bloody war for their selfish purposes.

The Chinese rulers have great interest in the South China Sea because there is oil there. It is estimated that there are rich resources of this strategic raw material under the South China Sea and under the continental shelf near the coast. As for the leaders in Beijing, they are planning to export oil to the West in exchange for a large amount of weapons and industrial equipment. But China now has little oil and it is looking for--and will seize--the oil producing areas. It is noteworthy that, not so long ago, China's Foreign Ministry lodged a protest with the Philippines for extracting oil in a Philippine island. The bankers and industrial magnates of the West have resolutely demanded Beijing to guarantee that it will repay the large amounts of loans and imported commodities with oil. Precisely because of this reason the Beijing rulers are busily engaged in their aggressive plots and are quickly strengthening their naval force. Judged by what is happening, China's defenders in the West have decided to cooperate with them in realizing their vicious plans. Mr Varley, secretary of state for industry of Britain, has just arrived in Beijing to negotiate with China on the selling of warships to China with Washington's approval. According to the well-informed "FINANCIAL TIMES," China plans to purchase a large number of warships from Britain. Last December, Asia's International News Agency reported that the report of China's purchase of an unknown number of nuclear submarines should worry those concerned with India's naval defense. It seems that this is a matter related to more than India's naval defense.

VASHCHENKO IN KIEV RECEIVES HUNGARIAN JUSTICE MINISTER

AU231745 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1740 GMT 22 Feb 79 AU

[Text] A delegation of the Hungarian Ministry of Justice, headed by the minister, Imre Markoja, recently spent 2 days in the Ukraine's capital city. Today Imre Markoja was received by Vashchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers first deputy chairman. A warm and friendly conversation was held. It was attended by Osetrov, USSR deputy minister of justice, and Zaychuk, Ukrainian minister of justice.

KATUSHEV DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH ROMANIA'S PATAN

LD231715 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 21 February K.F. Katushev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received I. Patan, Romanian deputy prime minister, at the latter's request.

There was an examination of several questions of economic cooperation between the USSR and Romania. G. Badrus, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

BULGARIAN STATE COUNCIL AWARDS KOSYGIN ORDER OF DIMITROV

LD231421 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 79 p 2 LD

[TASS report under general heading: "Lofty Awards"]

[Text] Sofia, 21 February--A Bulgarian State Council decree has awarded A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, an Order of Georgi Dimitrov for his great contribution to the development and consolidation of Soviet-Bulgarian relations and all-round cooperation and friendship between the USSR and Bulgaria and in connection with his 75th birthday.

KIEV MARKS CZECHOSLOVAK REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

AU231746 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1740 GMT 22 Feb 79 AU

[Text] On the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the February victory won by the Czechoslovak working people over the forces of reaction, the aktivs of the Ukrainian branch of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society met today at a solemn meeting at the Kiev chemical fiber production association, which is a collective member of the society. Addressing the meeting, Oldrich Mohelsky, CSSR consul general in Kiev, emphasized that the Czechoslovak working people won the February victory due to the creative application of the Leninist strategy and tactics by the Czechoslovak Communist Party in the struggle for the workers class rule in close alliance with the Soviet Union.

PRC INVASION SHOULD GIVE UK FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON HARRIERS

LD261231 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Feb 79 p 9 LD

[Article by NOVOSTI and LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent Edgar Cheporov under rubric "London Calling," under general headline "Hands Off Vietnam": "Where Will the Harriers Be Flying To?"]

[Text] It was midnight when the PRC Foreign Ministry telephoned the apartments of foreign correspondents accredited to Beijing. They were summoned to an urgent press conference to receive some "particularly important information." This referred to "attacks carried out by Vietnam on the Chinese border in recent weeks."

Yet the day before, as now has become known, the CCP Central Committee adopted the decision to invade Vietnam. "It is necessary to punish Vietnam," that document said, "and to teach the Vietnamese a serious lesson." Immediately after this the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO published a hysterical statement on Vietnam's "military preparations and armed expansion" against China. The statement was headed: "If This Can Be Forgiven, What Can Not?"

At that very moment, as the correspondents were being brainwahsed in the Chinese Foreign Ministry, troops were attacking Vietnam's borders and invading deep into its territory.

The Chinese Army's invasion can hardly be called unexpected, for all its perfidiousness. It is well known that in recent months China has concentrated more than 200,000 troops and hundreds of aircraft, tanks and guns on the Vietnamese border. It is well known that not Vietnam but China was organizing border provocations. The Beijing leaders, particularly after the overthrow of the Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea, not only made no secret of their aggressive plans with respect to Vietnam, but took advantage of every convenient opportunity to publicize them. Reporting the CCP Central Committee decision on the "need to punish Vietnam," Japan's KYODO agency notes: PRC Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping was working publicly on just a formula during his official U.S. visit. Visiting Japan, the same figure promised in a speech: "China could take punitive action against Vietnam." It is quite obvious that the Chinese leaders interpreted the results of this reconnaissance in their own favor.

Immediately after the first reports on present events on the Vietnamese border I spoke with Mark Frankland, commentator in the OBSERVER. Here is his opinion:

"The probability of a Chinese invasion emerged from Deng Xiaoping's speeches in America. However, not everyone in the West wanted to understand these statements or be aware of their dangerous nature. Beijing saw the fall of the Pol Pot regime as a blow to its own prestige. As we can see, China drew these conclusions from this: It is necessary to 'punish Vietnam' and show the whole world that China is 'not afraid' of Vietnam's ally--the USSR. Beijing propaganda is trying to prove that China is 'helping to strengthen stability' in Asia. In fact a new center of tension has emerged in Beijing's initiative."

Todsy one can identify certain signs of enforced sobering up in the camp of those who only yesterday were propagandizing military deals with Beijing. THE FINANCIAL TIMES believes that the Soviet Union has turned out to be right in its warnings regarding China's aggressive course. Events on the Vietnamese border, the GUARDIAN notes, "must be a lesson to the United States and its West European allies, which welcomed the clearly excessive enthusiasm in relations with the new Beijing rulers. These events provide food for thought in Britain, which is prepared to conclude a deal on selling Harrier fighters to China."

A British minister is now preparing to visit Beijing. The signing of the agreement on the sale of Harriers is to take place. But what if in a short time the PRC adopts another decision to "punish" one of its neighbors? When British fighters take part in such an action, will it be possible to explain to the victims of the bombing that Britain and China made an "ordinary business deal," as it is now being termed in Britain?

ZA RUBEZHOM ON FRG GOVERNMENT REACTION TO WEHNER STATEMENT

LD231010 Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

["ZA RUBEZHOM on FRG's Official Attitude to Wehner's Statement"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 23, TASS--The weekly ZA RUBEZHOM describes as uncertain the FRG Government's attitude to Herbert Wehner's statement on disarmament, now being discussed in the country. The statements made by government representatives both in and outside the Bundestag leave the impression of uncertainty and contradictoriness. Indeed, the newspaper asks, how is the rejection of the "first arm and then disarm yourself" principle to be reconciled with the statement that the modernization of arms by the West is a "matter of course"? How is recognition of the existence of East-West military balance now to be reconciled with an expression of readiness to carry out undeviatingly the long-term arms buildup programme which was adopted at the Washington session of the NATO Council last year?

The discussion in the FRG, the newspaper says, cannot leave the FRG's close and distant neighbours, all Europeans, indifferent. Indeed, peace and tranquility in Europe depends, in great measure, on what kind of policy the FRG will pursue.

PRAVDA CARRIES CPSU GREETINGS TO MALTESE CP CONGRESS

LD152326 Moscow TASS in English 2135 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 16, TASS--The CPSU Central Committee has sent a message of greetings to the delegates of the second congress of Malta's Communist Party. The message is published in the newspaper PRAVDA today.

The formation of a Marxist party in Malta has been a natural result of a long struggle waged by the Maltese people for their vital rights and interests, against foreign rule for freedom and genuine independence of the country, the message runs.

The message points out that the Communist Party of Malta, true as it is to internationalism, makes its contribution to the development of friendly relations between the Maltese and the Soviet peoples, to the struggle for consolidation of the process of detente, for making the Mediterranean a peace zone.

COMMENTARY, REPORTAGE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAN CONTINUES

Western Agencies Question Soviet Policy

LD261416 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Paris, February 26, TASS--In its dispatch from Tehran, the FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY counterposes today the Iranian press to Ayatollah Khomeyni, who, according to the agency, "seemed to wish to restore balance by according a friendly reception on Saturday to the Soviet ambassador in Iran after, perhaps, too fast a turn towards the West."

As the FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY claims "the Iranian press asks on Monday the polemic question whether the anonymous warning made by the ayatollah in the presence of Mr. Vinogradov, to all powers that they should not interfere in Iran's affairs also concerns the Soviet Union".... [TASS ellipsis] Western news agencies have already more than once attempted to cast doubt on the cohesion of the antishah movement in Iran and at the same time call in question Soviet policy towards that country, which has always been that of strict non-interference in its internal affairs.

Volskiy on Counterrevolution Threat

LD261047 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 8, 16 Feb 79 pp 8-9 LD

[D. Volskiy article: "Iran: What Now?"]

[Text] Historians will undoubtedly write many articles and books about the February events in Iran. As time goes on, of course, it will be eager to perceive the meaning of the present storms. But even now it is clear that in the first weeks of 1979 the people's movement in Iran has assumed such breadth and such resolute forms that no one will succeed in reversing these events.

Let us recall the following: the forced departure of the shah, long and doggedly resisted.... the gradual collapse of the monarchy's institutions of power.... the triumphant return of Ayatollah Khomeyni from exile, despite the opposition of the generals loyal to the throne.... the weeks of dual power--the Provisional Government of Bazargan, appointed by the ayatollah, versus the cabinet of Bakhtiar, who received his mandate from the shah.... and, finally, a dramatic zigzag--the desperate attack by the shah's guard against air force cadets who had gone over to the people's side. This adventure not only failed; it was the straw that broke the camel's back. Barricades were erected in Tehran, which has filled with smoke from fires and jammed with armed men; hundreds were killed or wounded.... Having proved incapable of coping with the uprising, the army command declared its "neutrality"; Bakhtiar resigned and as of Monday, 12 February, Bazargan's Cabinet officially set about executing its duties. "Victory," crowds of people on the streets chanted. At the same time, the revolution leaders called for vigilance and stronger unity among the people's forces.

This is understandable. The remnants of the SAVAK secret police, the shah's guard and other privileged military units were still attempting resistance. As recently as the beginning of February, Western analysists counted "more than 100,000 people rallying to the shah and ready for anything" who, apart from anything else, were united by a fear of being blamed for the bloodshed on the streets of Iranian cities. Dangers of another kind were also pointed out. A correspondent of the Italian magazine L'ESPRESSO reported that "Khomeyni's associates fear that the Americans could use the so-called 'Chilean tactic' in Iran. The essence of this tactic is to allow Khomeyni to come to power under pressure from the masses, and then to cause him every kind of damage until intervention by the army seems essential to eliminate chaos."

The artificial creation of political and economic confusion is indeed a tried and tested method of imperialist circles in the struggle against governments they find objectionable. But a social base is necessary for this. And at this time the imperialists' social base in Iran is weaker than ever. The most diverse forces have rallied together (at least at the present stage) under anti-shah and anti-American slogans: ranging from oilfield workers to bazaar traders, from the Shi'ite religious leaders to the liberal intelligentsia. True, only the cities are centers of the people's movement, and the countryside is relatively passive. This seems not just a matter of the traditional absence of political mobility among peasantry but of the fact that the shah's reforms in the sixties strengthened the stratum of rich peasants in the countryside. How will the peasant masses which make up a considerable part of the country's population behave in the future? This is yet another question to which the development of events has not yet provided an answer.

Attempts to split the people's movement and above all to set its religious wing in opposition to leftwing forces seem to many political strategists in Washington the only possibility that gives any hope of restoring the U.S. positions in Iran. A gamble is being placed on securing a change in the balance of forces by swaying the national bourgeoisie and some of the religious leaders in the direction of a compromise with the monarchists and those in the army who support an alliance with the United States. The calculation is that in the final analysis this will make it possible to prepare the ground for the "Chilean variant" we have mentioned. Or else for a gradual shift to the right in the new regime following, for example, the Portuguese pattern. The workers will return to the plants and the oilfields, the businessmen will return to their stores and offices, the mullahs to the mosques and the military to their barracks, and then.... They recall that in general the same militant mood reigned 4 years ago in Lisbon as in Tehran today.

However, the reality of these speculative constructions is dubious. It is not just that all parallels are relative. Iran is too important a link in the system of world economic relations for anyone to decide, disregarding the consequences, to use various kinds of export "models of counterrevolution" there. After all, let us say bluntly, this could cause widespread and protracted civil war: Passions are running high, and there are a lot of weapons around.

Meanwhile, this is what the WALL STREET JOURNAL writes in alarm: "In the event of civil war developing in Iran, a serious threat would emerge of various oil installations being damaged, and at best these could only be brought back into operation many months after the restoration of order. This prospect is hardly attractive for countries like the United States, which meets 5 percent of its oil needs by deliveries from Iran, or Japan, where this proportion is as high as 20 percent. If supplies of Iranian oil were cut off for a long period, it is feared, this could cause a sharp recession in economic activity in the United States and Japan." None other than Energy Secretary Schlesinger recently declared: The oil situation is now more serious than after the Arab countries introduced their embargo in 1973.

For all the seriousness of the situation in the oil market it seems, however, that Schlesinger, who figures among the "hawks" in the present administration, is deliberately laying it on thick. A suitable psychological atmosphere is thereby being prepared for broadening U.S. interference in Iranian affairs. More sober-minded people in Washington cannot fail to realize that, by pursuing its self-interested strategic objectives, the United States could jeopardize peace and security throughout the Persian Gulf, from where Western Europe and Japan import a large part of the oil they consume. [paragraph continues]

Under these conditions the contradictions between the United States and other industrialized capitalist countries for which Middle East oil supplies are considerably more important than for the United States would inevitably be exacerbated. And need one mention the overall negative influence of attempts at suppressing the Iranian revolution on the international political climate? Incidentally, Deng Xiaoping undoubtedly took this last circumstance into account when he advised the Americans to pursue a more resolute course in Iranian affairs.

To put it briefly, since the popular movement really took off in February, it has become particularly obvious that imperialism will risk causing setbacks, not least for the West itself, if it continues to try to reverse the course of events. The Iranian people have already paid a high price for the right to be masters of their own country and to choose its path of development. They are fully determined to defend this right. As Khomeyni recently observed in an interview with the U.S. magazine SEVEN DAYS, a future republican government will not tolerate foreign interference in Iran's internal affairs. That government, he said, will have to decide whether private or public ownership will exist in the country; the question must, moreover, be decided in the interests of the majority of the people.

New prospects are now opening up before the Iranian people. The antimonarchist, anti-imperialist revolution is ascending. And one can only express the wish that the dark and still threatening stormclouds will disperse quickly.

Pro-Shah Elements Still Strong

ID261151 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 17 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[TASS-attributed article by Yu. Tyssovskiy: "Iran: The Ninth Wave of the Revolution"]

[Text] The ceremony held on 12 February in the Niavaran Palace in Tehran was strikingly unusual. Only a few minutes earlier this winter residence of the Iranian sovereign, who had fled the revolution, had fallen under the insurgents' onslaught. The vaunted "immortals" from the shah's personal guards division backed up by tanks and armored transports put out white flags, and shortly afterward the task of guarding the former "shah's house" was handed over to representatives of the victorious people in one of the fabulously luxurious halls of the Niavaran.

Washington is worrying and seeking a "scapegoat"--for which role, to all appearances, it has chosen the CIA that was unable, despite the presence of an extensive staff in Iran, to determine the true size and strength of anti-shah feelings. But--and this is characteristic--they are seeking secondary culprits while deliberately closing their eyes to the fact that the United States alone is to blame for the crisis into which Iran was led by a policy of orientation on a transatlantic patron to the detriment of its national interest.

Attempts to blame the Iranian outburst on some "subversive communist activity" or even "Moscow's intrigues" are of course ridiculous, but Washington is resorting to them to conceal its own failures from the Western world.

The shah's one-sided pro-Western orientation produced Western monopolies' domination in all sectors of industry and agriculture and gave rise to a narrow stratum of propertied businessmen who became incredibly rich against the background of terrible poverty among the general mass of the population.

The agrarian sector was so disrupted that Iran, which had previously met all its own food requirements from its own resources, in recent years was purchasing agricultural produce abroad in ever-increasing quantities. This led to a sharp increase in discontent among the peasants who make up 60 percent of the country's population.

The SAVAK secret service nurtured by the Americans, with its methods of torture and persecution of dissenters and its nationwide terror, engendered universal hatred particularly among the intelligentsia and the Shi'ite clergy--the traditional opponents of the Pahlavi dynasty. The mosques became virtual cells of opposition which slowly grew into an active revolutionary force. The Ayatollah Khomeyni--an eminent Shi'ite theologian from Qom--exiled by the shah in 1963 for his open statements against the tyranny, became a symbol of resistance to the regime, able to unite various sectors of the opposition within the framework of a National Front which became the leading force in the anti-shah movement.

The ninth wave of the people's anger swept away the despot's system in just a few days, insuring victory for a democratic and anti-imperialist revolution. Neither U.S. support nor outright plots, including plans for a military coup woven by the reactionary army ruling clique with the active participation of General Huyser, deputy commander, U.S. forces in Europe, who spent a long time at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, were any help. This does not mean, of course, that the revolution's victory is definitive. The Pentagon is continuing to develop plans for military interference in Iran's internal affairs on the hackneyed pretext of "rescuing and evacuating American citizens" in that country.

Evidently, to provide a pretext for such interference the champions of the old regime are organizing various acts of provocation. Thus the armed attacks on Tehran's radio station and television center and on the U.S. Embassy were their work. According to a representative of Khomeyni's staff the latter incident was provoked by agents of SAVAK--the shah's former secret police which is a CIA creation.

The influence of pro-shah elements in Iran is still strong. Under these conditions the revolution's tasks are now to consolidate the unity of all detachments of the anti-monarchist movement, including leftwing and progressive forces, to step up its anti-imperialist course and to thwart the intrigues of external and internal reaction.

The political waves raised by the Iranian typhoons will evidently long continue to shake the countries of this region, which are ruled by reactionary regimes oriented toward the Western imperialist powers. The lessons of Vietnam and Iran should have led the United States to reassess its totally compromised policy. But the facts testify otherwise. Certain that it has lost "its" Iran, the United States has launched a search for a new gendarme to safeguard imperialist interests in the Persian Gulf and the Arab East. The well-known U.S. "hawk" Senator H. Jackson recently spoke of the need to create a new military alliance in the Near East between Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan which would enjoy full U.S. support. U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown set off on a 10-day tour of the Near East for precisely this purpose.

As for the Soviet Union, the congratulations sent by A.N. Kosygin, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of Iran's Provisional Government, expressed "readiness to maintain and develop relations between our two countries on the basis of the principles of equality, good-neighborliness, respect for national sovereignty and noninterference in each other's internal affairs." That is the USSR's traditional position with respect to its southern neighbor.

West Sows Discord

LD261611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Unattributed report from "World Today" feature compiled by V. Ardatovskiy: "Iran: Restructuring Is Underway"]

[Text] Each day of the new Iran is full of important events and decisions connected with the restructuring of the state and social system and the liquidation of the pernicious consequences of the shah's despotic rule and U.S. tutelage.

There has been news of the preliminary draft of the republic's constitution. AFP reported some of its clauses: The president must be elected every 4-5 years in a general election; women have the right to vote; the Parliament will be unicameral (the Majlis will remain and the Senate will be abolished). Vitally important industries and heavy industry enterprises will be in the hands of the state. Shi'ism--one of the two main currents of Islam--will be the official religion.

Americans continue to be evacuated from Iran. The U.S. consulates in Tabriz, Shiraz and Esfahan have been closed. General Qarani, chief of General Staff of the national army, has stated that there is no longer a single U.S. specialist working in the Iranian Army. According to reports from Washington the Pentagon reckons that Iran will not be able to cope with the weapons acquired in the United States and will be obliged therefore to appeal for help. So far there are no grounds for such expectations.

Those people in the United States who are counting on retaining their former positions in Iran are trying to achieve this by complicating the situation. Thus Western propaganda and, evidently, special services are seeking to sow differences and discord between three internal forces--Khomeyni's supporters, the National Front founded by Former Premier Mossadeq and the grouping of leftwing orientation. Unwilling to aggravate the situation, the leftwing youth organizations have rescinded a decision to hold street demonstrations in the capital on Thursday. Provocative actions like the production of fake banknotes depicting Khomeyni are also being undertaken to destabilize the situation.

Normal life is being resumed in the sphere of the people's education and the health service; the oilfields and plants and factories are operating, although it will take a long time to normalize production completely.

SAVAK-Israeli Cooperation

LD261704 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, February 26, TASS--Ayatollah Khomeyni, addressing delegations from Kuwait and Lebanon that visited Tehran, stressed that in Iran there would be no return to the past. He accused the Western powers of striving to place Iranian oil under their control and demanding that Iran provide them with military bases. Our oil, the revenue from which should have served the interests of the people, Khomeyni said, was taken away from Iran in exchange for American arms and American bases. That is in the interests of the United States. The Americans turned Iran into a base for the event of war with the USSR.

Khomeyni said that according to the latest information Bakhtiar, the shah's placeman to the post of premier, had fled from the country.

We have asked all states, he said, to extradite Bakhtiar to Iran for trial because he is guilty of crimes and gave the order to start the bloodshed.

Ministry of Economy and Finance 'Ali Ardalan stated that Iran's central bank would soon start the emission of new money without the likeness of the shah.

Meanwhile the purge of the Iranian Army, police and gendarmierie from pro-shah elements is continuing. The chief of Iran's police Colonel N. Majallali said that another six division generals and 17 brigadier generals of the police had been retired, the newspaper KEYHAN reports. Three top ranking officers of the Iranian Army were arrested in Esfahan. They will be tried for the massacre of people by the army in Esfahan.

Beirut, February 26, TASS--The Israeli intelligence and the shah's SAVAK secret police had jointly drawn up plans of striking blows at the Palestine resistance movement and the national-patriotic forces of Lebanon. As reported by the Beirut newspaper ASH-SHA'B, this has become known from documents discovered in the building of the Israeli mission in the Iranian capital and in the archives of the secret police.

Some of these documents expose the close cooperation of the Lebanese right-wing Christian National-Liberal Party and the Qataib Party with SAVAK, whose agents had actively operated on the territory of that country in the period of the civil war of 1975-1976. ASH-SHA'B points out that it follows from documents that then United States Ambassadors in Iran and Lebanon Helms and Godley had taken a direct part in the preparation of plans directed against the Palestinian resistance movement and the national-patriotic forces of Lebanon.

Khomeyni on U.S. Bases in Iran

LD262034 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The Voice of the Iranian Revolution in Tehran refuted allegations of a Saudi newspaper that Ayatollah Khomeyni condemned the interference of the Soviet Union in the internal affairs of Iran. Leaders of the Iranian revolution more than once in their speeches have noted that the Soviet Union follows the policy of good-neighborliness toward Iran.

Ayatollah Khomeyni made a statement in the presence of the two Kuwaiti and Lebanese delegations who visited Tehran yesterday, saying that it will not be possible to return to the past in Iran. Ayatollah Khomeyni accused Western states of trying to impose control on Iranian oil and of demanding that Iran let them have military bases. Ayatollah Khomeyni said: Our oil, whose profits will serve the people's interests, used to be taken out of Iran in return for U.S. weapons and U.S. bases, that is, for the interests of the United States. Ayatollah Khomeyni said that the Americans turned Iran into a base of theirs in the event of a war against the Soviet Union.

U.S. MOVES TO OBTAIN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SEPARATE DEAL

LD261958 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Washington, February 26, TASS--The United States is stepping up its efforts to wrap up the separate Camp David deal which, according to Washington's design, is called upon to lay the foundation for a new reactionary alliance in the Middle East.

On Sunday, following the completion of another round of the separate talks at Camp David, President J. Carter met in the White House with the heads of Israeli and Egyptian delegations M. Dayan and M. Khalil.

The President stated that Prime Minister Khalil and Foreign Minister Dayan had reported on their negotiations and that he is discussing with the governments of Egypt and Israel the possibility to hold this week another meeting at the level of heads of government. The President said that he would go to Camp David together with Prime Minister M. Begin and Prime Minister M. Khalil accompanied by Secretary of State C. Vance.

Thus, what is at issue is the desire to finalize the Camp David collusion on the same basis of further concessions by Egypt and Israel's refusal to withdraw its troops from the occupied Arab territories which cannot but cause a further deterioration of the situation in the Middle East.

At the same time, however, after the debacle of the former regime in Iran, Washington considers the prepared separate deal as an important stage in its plans to strengthen the wobbly military and strategic position of the United States in that part of the world. The intention of the U.S. administration to broaden the U.S. military presence in this explosive area of the world is confirmed, among others, by the recent statements of high-ranking officials in Washington.

U.S. Defence Secretary H. Brown, recently back from a tour of a number of Middle East countries, yesterday made a televised statement. Pulling no punches, he stated that he did not exclude the use of U.S. military force in the Middle East under the false pretext of protecting oil supplies which, as is well known, are not threatened by anyone.

Even more explicit in this respect was U.S. Energy Secretary J. Schlesinger. In a televized message, referring to some vital interests in the Persian Gulf area, [he] bluntly stated that the United States intends to protect these interests even if this requires resort to military force or a military presence. Schlesinger said that military presence meant sending U.S. military into the area.

TASS REPORTS MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

LD222040 Moscow TASS in English 1846 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 22, TASS--Throughout the day yesterday the Lebanese (?separatists), backed by Israel, brutally shelled the districts of Hasbayan, An-Nabatiyah, and populated localities in Al-Biqa valley. Civilian (?casualties) are reported.

According to reports received, Israeli Defence Minister Weizman visited the south Lebanese districts controlled by right-wing Christian armed units. He said that the so-called "South Lebanon Defence Army" constituted an "important element Israel's security". During his meetings with Khaddam, leader of the armed [word indistinct] units, the Israeli defence minister assured the latter that Israel would continue to render allout support to the conservatives because it regarded them as "its loyal friends, who have common goals with Israel".

A resolute condemnation of the treacherous policy pursued by the Lebanese conservatives circles, who take the cue from Tel Aviv, is contained in the statement issued here by the Central Political Council of the National-Patriotic Forces of Lebanon. All the progressive forces of the Lebanon, it stresses, demand the restoration of the central Lebanese authorities' sovereignty over the southern districts of the country, implementation of the U.N. decisions aimed at normalizing the situation in the Lebanon.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1356 GMT on February 26 reports: "Striving to keep up permanent tension in Lebanon, Israeli military are incessantly continuing provocations against that country. Two Israeli aircraft again violated Lebanon's air space yesterday flying over Beirut at a low altitude, while Israeli warships, were carrying out exercises off Lebanon's coast in that country's territorial waters. The provocations served as a signal for Lebanese conservatives and separatists closely cooperating with Tel Aviv. They stepped up their armed actions against inter-Arab, Palestinian and national patriotic forces in various parts of the country. Fierce clashes with the use of artillery, grenade launchers and mortars were instigated by detachments of the right-wing Christian Lebanese front in Ayn ar-Rummanah, Ash-Shiyah and Badaru, in the capital's southern districts. At the same time, the separatists in the south of Lebanon intensively shelled the town of An-Nabatiyah."]

OPENING OF ARAB LEAGUE ECONOMIC COUNCIL REPORTED

LD262104 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, February 26, TASS--The Economic Council of the Arab League opened its 26th session today in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. Taking part in the session are the ministers of economics and commerce of Arab countries, as well as representatives of more than hundred organizations and companies.

SOVIET MEDIA COVER 2D CONGRESS OF MOROCCAN PPS

CPSU Delegation Leaves for Morocco

LD221736 Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 22, TASS--A delegation of the CPSU headed by Ivan Gustov, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee, flew to Morocco today at the invitation of the Party of Progress and Socialism. The delegation will take part in the work of the Second National Congress of the Party of Progress and Socialism.

Delegations Arrive for Congress

LD230948 Moscow TASS in English 2058 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, February 22, TASS--The Second National Congress of the Moroccan Party of Progress and Socialism, the vanguard of the working class, peasantry and all the working people of the country, is opening tomorrow in Casablanca, the major trade and industrial centre of Morocco.

The convocation of the congress was preceded by preparatory work on a large scale by the Central Committee and party organizations. Meeting and party conferences were held to discuss the draft theses of the party Central Committee for the second party congress.

The delegates to the congress will discuss the report by the Central Committee on the party activity. They will also elect leading bodies of the party.

Delegations of the communist and workers' parties and national democratic organizations of many countries, representatives of national liberation movements have arrived for the congress.

Moroccan Congress Opens

LD240217 Moscow TASS in English 1944 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Casablanca, February 23, TASS--The Second National Congress of Morocco's Party of Progress and Socialism opened here today. Delegates from all party organisations of the country are taking part in its work.

The congress is also attended by representatives of all major political parties and trade union organisations of Morocco, delegations of communist and workers' parties from socialist and other countries, national democratic [word indistinct] and national liberation movements.

The summary report of the Central Committee of the Party of Progress and Socialism was delivered by 'Ali Yata, general secretary of the party.

'Ali Yata Reports to Congress

LD250144 Moscow TASS in English 2108 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Casablanca, February 24, TASS--At the Second National Congress of the Progress and Socialism Party, its General Secretary 'Ali Yata, made a report on the party's activities over the last four years.

The general crisis which is now experienced by capitalism, he said, is accompanied with active machinations by reactionary, imperialist and militarist circles against the relaxation of international tension, peace and international cooperation. In this situation, the unity of all the anti-imperialist and freedom-loving forces of the world assumes special importance.

'A. Yata sharply criticized the policy of the present Chinese leadership. He stressed that Beijing has now found itself in the same camp with imperialism and reaction and its actions represent a serious menace to world peace. He condemned China's perfidious aggression against Vietnam and on behalf of the Moroccan working people demanded an immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnamese territory and reaffirmed its party's solidarity with the heroic people of Vietnam.

Turning to the situation in the Middle East, the general secretary of the Progress and Socialism Party said that the Camp David agreements aim to increase the influence of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the area. The Progress and Socialism Party believes that a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem can be achieved only through withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and ensurance of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their own independent state.

Speaking of Morocco's internal problems, 'A. Yata said that the country is now experiencing a deep crisis which has brought on by the government's economic policy, Morroco's close ties with the world capitalist economy and the dependence of the national economy on foreign monopolies. To resolve this crisis, the Progress and Socialism Party considers it necessary to nationalize the key branches of the national economy, to strengthen the state sector, to impose restrictions on private property, to end the one-sided orientation of foreign trade to the Western countries and to develop all-round economic ties with the socialist countries.

In conclusion 'A. Yata stressed that the Progress and Socialism Party, which is a political organization of the working class of Morocco, should come out more actively in defence of the interests of the working people. Our party, he said, calls for the establishment of a national democratic front with the participation of all progressive parties and organizations which come out for stronger national independence and sovereignty and for progressive social and economic reforms.

The congress was addressed today by foreign guests. On behalf of 16 million Soviet communists and the entire Soviet people, Ivan Gustov, the leader of the CPSU delegation, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU CC, wished the congress delegates successful work. Amid stormy applause he conveyed to the congress greetings and best wishes from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

Through the congress delegates, Ivan Gustov said, we greet all members of the fraternal Progress and Socialism Party which is one of the sections of the international communist and working-calss movement, a party whose efforts are part of the common struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism and reaction and for genuine national and social emancipation of the peoples.

Moscow Lauds Draft Agenda

LD232126 Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 1830 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Konstantin Andreyev talk: "An Important Event in the Life of Moroccan Progressive Forces"]

[Text] On 23 February, the 2d National Congress of the Party of Progress and Socialism will hold its meetings in Morocco's second biggest city, Casablanca. The party members have walked a glorious road and have surmounted difficulties and ordeals and, alongside other patriots, have made a valuable contribution to the struggle of the Moroccan people against imperialism and for the achievement and bolstering of the country's national independence.

When the Progress and Socialism Party [PPS] attained legitimate status in August 1974, it continued its work in serving the basic interests of the working class and Moroccan workers.

The party occupies its place in the vanguard of those national forces which demand the ending of Morocco's subservience to imperialism in the economic field, the bolstering of the public sector, the spreading of democracy and the adoption of a foreign policy opposed to imperialism.

The newspaper AL-BAYAN has published the topics on the agenda of the Central Committee of the Party of Progress and Socialism. These topics, which will be discussed by the 2d congress, have already been discussed by party's cells and regional committees. They deal, in brief, with the party's stand on the most important issues of Moroccan foreign and domestic policy and the contemporary international situation. The draft agenda also contains the tasks that the PPS will pursue in the future.

The draft agenda of the PPS Central Committee contains a deep analysis of the social and economic crises through which Morocco is now passing.

In the opinion of the party, it is essential that economic stability prevail and that radical reforms be made toward ending the domination of the imperialist monopolies and the local elites. Such measures should lead to the nationalization of the principal parts of the economy, banks, insurance companies, the mining industry and foreign trade.

To insure self-sufficiency in food for the country, it is essential to carry out agrarian reform--by force. This would limit the large ownership of land and encourage peasant cooperatives.

To safeguard the interests of the workers, the PPS [words indistinct].

The draft agenda refers to the positive aspects that have taken place in the political life of Morocco in recent years, such as the release of the majority of political detainees and the granting of legitimate status to the PPS and the National Union of Moroccan Students, the holding of elections for local bodies and parliament, and other progressive measures.

The draft agenda also provides for the tasks of continuing the struggle for true democracy. Among the basic tasks the party is working for is that of setting up a national democratic front. The party feels that it is above all essential in this regard that an alliance be formed between the revolutionary and progressive forces, the working class, the poor peasantry and the petit bourgeois. Such an alliance should embrace all the leftist political circles in Morocco, including the PPS, the Socialist Union of Popular Forces, the National Union of Popular Forces, and the Moroccan Labor Union [ittihad kadihi al-maghreb]. An alliance of these leftist forces and other anti-imperialist national currents including, above all, the Istiqlal Party, would take the form of a national democratic front.

The draft agenda refers in its analysis of the international situation to the successes scored by the peoples fighting for peace, detente, independence and social progress, affirming at the same time that the acts of sabotage carried out by imperialism and Zionism against the forces of peace and progress constitute a grave threat to world peace.

The draft agenda denounces the line of cooperation with imperialism--a matter which threatens the interests of the socialist bloc and the national liberation movements.

Now, following the flagrant Chinese aggression against tormented Vietnam, the success of the protest moves under the slogan "hands off socialist Vietnam" has become an urgent task in the struggle for world peace and the security of the peoples.

The PPS denounces the capitulationist line of President as-Sadat and is working firmly for the bolstering of the PLO and the legitimate rights of the Palestine Arab people, and the solution of the Middle East crisis not through bilateral deals but within the framework of the Geneva conference for peace in the Middle East, with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the new PLO.

The PPS draft agenda also speaks of the importance of seeking peaceful ways for solving the problem of the western Sahara.

The PPS is working for peace and cooperation among the peoples of the Maghreb on an anti-imperialist line--this is an extremely important requirement.

It must be pointed out here that the USSR adopts a position of respect toward the peace-loving Moroccan people. The Soviet people laud the activities of the PPS for the sake of peace, detente and the development of Soviet-Moroccan relations and cooperation for both countries' benefit.

The Soviet communists, like all the other factions in the communist and workers movement, point out that the PPS constantly seeks to defend the unity and cohesion of this movement and firmly opposes all the calls for an antagonism toward communism raised by reaction and its agents. Soviet citizens wish the 2d Congress of the Party of Progress and Socialism greater successes for the good of the Moroccan people. They wish the PPS all possible success in its efforts to strengthen itself organizationally and ideologically and in its fight for the unity of the working class and all the progressive forces in the country and for the progress of the Moroccan people and their prosperity.

USSR STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF KUWAIT'S CONTINUED INDEPENDENCE

LD262004 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The emergence of the newly independent state of Kuwait on the world's political map 18 years ago can be evaluated as an important victory for the Arab national liberation movement. The importance of this victory is enhanced, first because it was achieved in an area which used to be a plantation for the imperialists, and second because this state possesses vast oil resources.

It is known that the imperialists by no means wish to part company with oil. But the Kuwaitis managed to achieve independence and defend it against the encroachments of the neocolonialists. There is no doubt that the Kuwaitis play a leading part in making this struggle a success. It is also necessary to point out the importance of the solidarity of the other Arab people with them. It is years since the Arab national liberation movement became a great force in the international arena to be reckoned with by the imperialists. Finally, it is necessary to note that the years of independent Kuwait have coincided with the period when the balance of forces in the international arena changed basically in favor of socialism.

The mere fact of the existence of the socialist community checks the imperialist ability to pressure newly liberated states, and it helps them to establish equal polticial and economic relations with all the countries of the world.

In the last 18 years Kuwait has persistently followed a policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and support for the people's right to self-determination and independence. Its policy, which is directed toward the struggle against colonialism and Zionism and for commitment to the principles and aims of the UN, has earned it the respect of quite a few nations and states, including the Soviet Union.

The establishment of diplomatic relations 16 years ago between the Soviet Union and Kuwait undoubtedly proved to be a new and important element in strengthening the independence of the newly emerging Arab state. The development of Soviet-Kuwaiti relations during these years is considered a clear example of the implementation of the Leninist principles in foreign policy from the practical aspect, manifested in the equality of rights and respect of sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs and cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit.

The leaders of the two countries express satisfaction with the present level of Soviet-Kuwaiti relations and with the endeavor to attain further development of cooperation in various fields. The similarity of the two countries' attitude toward a number of basic issues of the time and above all toward the bases of settling the Middle East conflict helps to achieve such a development of relations between the two countries. The two countries believe that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is possible only when the Israeli forces have withdrawn from all occupied Arab territory and when the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people have been granted.

Soviet public opinion noted with satisfaction Kuwait's active participation in the work of the Baghdad summit conference, which laid down a unified plan of the Arab states toward the separate deals with Israel. Soviet public opinion welcomed with full understanding and approval the statement which the Kuwaiti foreign minister made some time ago, in which he said that his government opposes the establishment of any military alliances with foreign participation in the Arabian Gulf area. What attracts attention is the fact that the minister made the statement directly after the visit of U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown to the Middle East the purpose of which was, according to the U.S. press, to establish this alliance in particular to safeguard the interests of U.S. monopolies in this area.

Consequently one can affirm that Kuwait, like the Soviet Union, adheres to one point of view on the issues of gulf security, and this viewpoint was expressed 3 years ago in the joint communique following the visit of the Kuwaiti foreign minister to the Soviet Union. The communique stated that strengthening peace and security in the gulf area can prevent foreign intervention in the issues of the area and insure freedom of shipping and establish cooperation based on good-neighborliness among all the states of the gulf area.

Soviet citizens, while they congratulate the Kuwaiti people on national day, express confidence that friendly relations between the Soviet and Kuwaiti peoples will, in the future, develop and grow stronger for the benefit of the two countries and the benefit of mutual understanding and peace in the entire world.

PONOMAREV RECEIVES SYRIAN BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL

LD262216 Moscow TASS in English 2052 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 26, TASS--Today Alternate Politbureau member and Secretary of the CPSU CC Boris Ponomarev and Deputy Chief of the International Department of the CPSU CC Rostislav Ulyanovskiy had a meeting with member of the leadership of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party (Ba'th) of Syria, President of the Arab Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society Mut'ib Shnan. During the talk, which passed in friendly atmosphere, the representatives of the CPSU and the Ba'th underlined the importance of the further all-round development and deepening of Soviet-Syrian friendship and cooperation, which answer the vital interests of the peoples of the two countries. Participants in the meeting confirmed the resolve of their parties to oppose to the utmost the aggressive designs of imperialism and its accomplices who are conducting a policy of military provocations and expansion against the peoples following the path of independent and progressive development. Taking part in the talk was CPSU CC member, chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Zinaida Kruglova. The meeting was attended by Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic in the USSR Babr al-Kafri.

U.S. MOVING IRANIAN MILITARY BASES TO CYPRUS

LD161145 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent B. Lipovoy dispatch: "NATO Bustle Over Cyprus" from G. Deynichenko "World Today" roundup]

[Text] The United States is counting on moving its military installations located in Iran to British military bases in Cyprus in the immediate future.

U.S. U-2 spy planes have already been granted permanent access to these bases, and British radar stations concentrated there are carrying out technical monitoring of neighboring regions "in accordance with NATO assignments."

The NATO bosses' bustle over Cyprus, in the opinion of the progressive Cypriot public, is one of the main circumstances complicating the already difficult process of settling the Cyprus problem, B. Lipovoy, our Athens correspondent writes.

The Cypriots resolutely advocate the removal of all foreign troops from the island's territory. This is stated most resolutely in a cable sent to UN Secretary General K. Waldheim by E. Papaioannou, secretary general of the Restorative Party of the Working People of Cyprus.

INCIDENT INVOLVING 2 AMERICANS IN TURKEY REPORTED

LD242205 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] And finally Turkey, from where our correspondent Ihsan Mustafayev has sent this dispatch about stepped up activities of American intelligence services:

Two American officers from a NATO military base with nuclear warheads in Erzurum tried to take pictures of the civil airfield and nearby military installations. They openly ignored a huge notice on the airfield in English that it is strictly forbidden to take photographs. A Turkish police officer who arrived on the scene asked the American officers to hand over their cameras, but they refused to do that and instead exposed the film.

Local journalists view the incident as an illustration of more intensive activities by the American military in Turkey, following the events in Iran. In this connection, one unwillingly recalls the behavior of the first secretary of the American Embassy in Ankara, (Robert Dick) who went on a tour of southeastern parts of Turkey for purposes of incitement. Apparently, his tour was linked with NATO activities in that country.

CPSU DELEGATION ATTENDS MALTA'S CP CONGRESS

LD170032 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2123 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Text] La Valetta--The Second Congress of Malta's Communist Party opened here today. Its delegates are to discuss reports about the work of the party's leading organs, adopt the party's program and charter and elect the new membership of the party's Central Committee.

Delegations from a number of fraternal communist and workers parties, including a CPSU delegation, have arrived in Malta to take part in the work of the congress. Numerous communist and workers parties, progressive international and national organizations have sent greetings to the Maltese Communists' congress.

S. AFRICA REPORTEDLY PLANS NUCLEAR BLASTS ALONG BORDERS

LD261828 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] London, February 26, TASS--TASS correspondent Brian Bunting reports:

It has become known here that the Pretoria authorities have contingency plans to explode nuclear devices along South Africa's borders with neighbouring African countries. A document of the South Africa's atomic energy board, submitted by the African National Congress of South Africa to the participants in the seminar "Nuclear Collaboration With the Republic of South Africa" reveals that there is a series of maps showing concentrations of population on racial lines and indicating the effects of nuclear explosions of different sizes in different areas. The plan made up yet in [year indistinct] shows that already at that time the ringleaders of the regime considered in real earnest a possibility of using atomic weapons in military and political aims.

There is only one safeguard against the nuclear plans of the South African regime and that is the destruction of the (?apartheid regime) itself and the establishment of people's power in the Republic of South Africa, said an ANC's representative at the seminar.

ISRAEL, S. AFRICA SIGN AGREEMENT ON COAL DELIVERIES

LD261444 Moscow TASS in English 1321 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Maputo, February 26, TASS--After four years of secret negotiations, the Israeli Government and the South African Transvaal Coal Owners Association have signed a long-term agreement on deliveries of South African coal to Israel. About 1 million tons of coal will be delivered every year.

Israel intends to transfer as many electric power stations as possible from oil to coal because of termination of Iranian oil deliveries and the decision of the Provisional Government of Iran not to supply oil in the future to the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa and Israel.

According to the press, Israel also intends to conclude an agreement on coal deliveries with Australia and the United States.

REPORTS ON S. AFRICAN OIL IMPORTS TO BE CENSORED

LD212250 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 19 Feb 79 LD

["Covering Up Their Tracks"--TASS headline]

[Text] Pretoria, February 19, TASS--Jan Heunis, minister of the economy of the Republic of South Africa, speaking in the South African Parliament, stated that [words indistinct] Pretoria to introduce a strict censorship of all press reports containing indications of sources and amounts of oil imported into the Republic of South Africa.

The racist-ruled Republic of South Africa satisfied 90 per cent of its fuel requirements [words indistinct] of deliveries of [words indistinct] Iran. With the fall of the shah's regime in Tehran and the triumph of the people's uprising in that country, that oil supply canal was cut off. But, as is clear from the statement by the South African minister, the Republic of South Africa continues getting oil from other sources. Western oil monopolies are such sources.

It is exactly they that, contrary to the resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly, maintain close contacts with the racists. According to date of the African press, five Western companies--Shell, the British Petroleum, Mobil, Caltex, and Total--provide the Republic of South Africa with hundreds of millions of barrels of oil every day.

KENYA'S ECONOMY BECOMING DEPENDENT ON WEST

LD252228 Moscow in Swahili to East Africa 1915 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] We present a commentary by (Andrey Deguchev), a Soviet expert on African affairs, on the state of Kenya's economy.

It is now 5 months since the death of Mzee Jomo Kenyatta and the subsequent assumption of power by the new leaders in Kenya. A sufficient period has now elapsed to make possible an assessment of the political climate as it affects the economy. Observers in Kenya and in foreign countries have already stressed that the policy of President Moi's government in economic matters consists of a policy of mingling new and old approaches; that is to say, opening up new ones while at the same time maintaining the old ones. Actually, the new government in Kenya has not ceased to follow the old procedures in economic matters, and now it is striving hard to solve the country's agricultural problems.

However, neither the old nor the new approaches conform properly to the master development plan. Moreover, the government of Kenya seems to be seeking for any attempts to overcome pressing problems which have existed for many years as a result of initiating free enterprise. A confirmation of this we find in the events of the last 2 months.

Statistics released last January showed Kenya to be in deficit to other countries: The value of its currency was falling and the cost of living was rising, especially for those in the lower income bracket. In order to reduce the problems of the economy, the IMF proposed a devaluation of the Kenya shilling, but this proposal was rejected by the Kenya Government--justifiably, since the devaluation of the currency would definitely have affected the lives of many of the people. Instead, the government took different steps: For example, it introduced a credit squeeze and strengthened its supervision over the country's currency reserves.

There is no doubt that in Kenya, where foreign activity in the economy is to the country's advantage, such steps as were taken could have produced positive results, but such benefits would only be temporary, because multinational companies belonging to capitalists in Western countries have by no means scaled down their operations in the country. Moreover, the government of Kenya has taken steps to promote its relations with capitalist countries. Talks are in progress with EEC members, there are also attempts to promote economic relations with countries such as Canada and Japan, as well as to conclude agreements under which the International Development Bank would provide Kenya with further credit.

We should not forget that EEC member countries, like any other industrialized and capitalist countries, continue to protect themselves from the sale of commodities from developing countries in their markets. There is not even a single instance to show that cooperation with such countries has benefited developing countries.

As for loans from the International Development Bank, these are always provided under tough conditions. The conditions of slavery under which such loans are provided and attempts by those countries to interfere in the internal affairs of independent countries were highlighted by President Kaunda of Zambia when he addressed a meeting of the central banks of Africa in Lusaka.

Information available clearly confirms that expanding trade and economic relations with capitalist countries can be beneficial to developing countries only when the latter become able to firmly halt the policy of expansion by the former. Moreover, countries which have opted to pursue a capitalist line cannot avert inclusion in the overall structure of international capitalism and will no doubt be subject to the conditions and rules of capitalism.

These conditions and rules are well known, in the same way as the rules of denying rights to small and weak nations are known. It is not by sheer accident that delegates to the meeting of the Group of 77 in Arusha unanimously stressed the lack of fairness in the economic cooperation between developing countries and capitalist Western states.

(Andrey Deguchev) sums up his commentary, saying: Like many people in Kenya, I feel that even the new approaches to economic matters chosen by Kenya will fail to resolve the prevailing problems, be they economic or social. The policy of free enterprise, even if it is applied by capable and experienced leaders; leaders in whom people can place their confidence, cannot save the country from the dangers of confusion and chaos in monetary and economic matters.

FURTHER REPORT ON OAU MEETING IN NAIROBI

LD251230 Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 25, TASS--TASS special correspondents Aleksandr Osipov and Geliy Skobelev report: The 32nd session of the OAU Ministerial Council is continuing in the Kenyan capital. Participants in the session have approved the agenda and started a debate on issues on the agenda.

The problems pertaining to Africa's ultimate liberation and strengthening the unity of the countries of the continent were reflected in the speech by OAU Secretary General E. Kojo. He devoted special attention to the situation in the south of Africa, where the struggle of oppressed peoples for liberation is now entering its decisive stage. E. Kojo highly evaluated the struggle of the Zimbabwe people for freedom and independence under the leadership of the Patriotic Front and resolutely condemned the armed attacks launched by the Salisbury racialists at the independent neighbour states. These acts of aggression, the OAU secretary general stressed, enhance the determination of the OAU member states to strengthen solidarity with the struggle of the Zimbabwe patriots.

Touching upon the Namibian problem, E. Kojo strongly criticized the plans hatched by the authorities of the South African Republic for depriving the Namibian people of genuine independence by means of the so-called "internal settlement", which is aimed at forcing a puppet regime on the country. In this connection, he called upon free Africa to frustrate the criminal designs of the racialists.

The OAU secretary general stressed the necessity of stepping up aid to the national liberation movements of the South of Africa. He urged the countries of the continent to honour the provisions of the OAU Charter, in particular, the principles of territorial integrity and inviolability of the borders of the African states. E. Kojo stressed that the strengthening of African unity and broadening inter-African cooperation are matters of paramount significance.

INDOCHINA

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON PRC AGGRESSION AGAINST VIETNAM

PRC Preparing To Expand Conflict

LD261532 Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

["Rebuff to the Chinese Expansionists"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, February 26, TASS--The Chinese aggressors that have intruded into the northern areas of Vietnam are throwing into battle additional units, including tanks and heavy artillery with the aim of seizing key objectives deep inside Vietnamese territory. They are sending to the combat area new military units and are trying to steadily increase the scale of military operations.

It is reported by the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY, the Vietnamese troops and the population of Vietnam's northern provinces are heroically defending every inch of their sacred land, are continuing to deal heavy reply blows at the Chinese aggressors. On February 22 and 23 the Vietnamese Armed Forces in the border provinces scored big victories in the Ta Lang and Patan districts (Lai Chau Province), in the Thanh Thuy district (Ha Tuen Province), near Dong Dang, Tam Long and Loc Binh (Lang Son Province). Vietnamese fighting men stopped the enemy's advance in the area of Highway No 4 in Cao Bang Province. The aggressor suffered big losses in battles to the southwest of the town of Lao Cai.

In the combat areas Vietnam's Armed Forces have destroyed many enemy soldiers, inflicted heavy losses to four Chinese battalions, knocked out a number of tanks and armoured personnel carriers. The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY reports that according to incomplete data, in the seven days of fighting from February 17 to 23 the Vietnamese soldiers and militamen destroyed 16,000 Chinese aggressors, knocked out 160 tanks and armoured personnel carriers, and 110 motor vehicles.

According to reports reaching here, China is preparing the ground for spreading its aggression also to the Laotian People's Democratic Republic. For this aim Chinese troops are being massed at the point where the borders of China, Laos and Vietnam join. Beijing has envigorated its agents who are conducting subversive work among Meo tribesmen in the northern provinces of the Laotian People's Democratic Republic with the aim of provoking disorders there.

The Vietnamese press is citing facts of mass atrocities and crimes by the occupationists on temporarily held territory. They are leaving behind them the ashes of razed villages. Many schools and hospitals have been destroyed. Hundreds of women, old people and children, who did not manage to leave the area of hostilities, have been tortured and killed.

20 Chinese Divisions in Action

LD261520 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Kazbek Vasev]

[Text] It has been 10 days since China's criminal aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam began. The Chinese rulers are widening the scope of their impudent intrusion into the neighboring country. According to news agencies, bynow over 20 Chinese divisions are participating in the invasion, which is more than the number of the U.S. ground troops at the peak of the U.S. interference in the war in Indochina.

According to reports by witnesses, the brutal treatment of the peaceful population continues in the temporarily occupied areas. The Chinese interventionists burn villages, kill children, women and old people and fire at ambulances. In Lao Cai the invaders have blown up the power station, obliterated with the aid of tanks whole streets and killed many peaceful inhabitants who did not have sufficient time to escape.

In some places the aggressor has intruded into SRV territory up to 30 kilometers. The armed forces and militia of Vietnam are energetically counterattacking the enemy, inflicting upon him serious losses in manpower and equipment.

According to Hanoi Radio, cited by AFP, during the 7-day long engagement 16,000 Chinese servicemen and officers have been put out of action and 160 tanks and armored cars destroyed. On 22 and 23 February alone the Chinese military lost 4,000 killed and wounded. Judging by reports from Hanoi Radio, under pressure from Vietnamese servicemen the enemy has retreated in panic on several fronts. At the same time, Chinese long-range artillery has shelled fleeing chinese troops, trying to stop them.

The obstinate bloody battles continue in the north of Vietnam, in Lang Son Province, near the town Dong Dang, in Cao Bang Province, and along Highway 4, which is used by Chinese troops for its forward thrust.

The SRV ambassador in France has said in an interview for Radio Europe that by now at least 200,000 Chinese soldiers are participating in the aggression against Vietnam. He resolutely refuted the propaganda assertions of Beijing that the Chinese intrusion is allegedly a local and limited action. The Beijing rulers, the ambassador stressed, have unleashed a real war of aggression against Vietnam.

Meanwhile, the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY has undertaken a crude attempt to deny the facts of bestiality committed by the Chinese military on Vietnamese soil. It is trying to prove that Chinese servicemen are behaving almost as benefactors of the Vietnamese. Depicting their [word indistinct] and humaneness, the agency has gone so far as to say that one of the Chinese units has, allegedly, while operating near the town Lao Cai, decided not to capture one Vietnamese village at nighttime in order not to disturb its inhabitants. With this sort of silly and repugnant falsehoods Beijing is trying to deceive world public opinion and disguise its crimes against the Vietnamese people.

POLITIKA Lauds USSR's Patience

LD231948 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Yugoslavia--POLITIKA writes: Moscow is showing patience. At the same time no one in Moscow doubts that the USSR may at any moment provide Vietnam with military aid. The Soviet Union is already the winner in political respects resulting from the fact that China started a military action for which it is hard to find a justification. For this reason the USSR may select any method of punishing China. Such a risk, the newspaper concludes, can only be avoided in the event of the timely departure of Chinese forces from Vietnam.

SRV Army Paper on Aggressors

LD261620 Moscow TASS in English 1533 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 26, TASS--The Chinese aggressors have encountered on Vietnamese soil powerful reply blows by the armed forces and population of Vietnam. They have been given the first proper lessons, writes today the army newspaper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN.

The rebuff by Vietnamese units is mounting and will mount with every day because the Vietnamese fighting men, our people are protecting their sacred land, independence and sovereignty. We are defending our right to build socialism. The aggressors, the paper stresses, talk a lot about the "limited nature" of their actions. But that is a lie. In reality they are searching for all means to expand the aggression, are sending in ever more weapons and soldiers, are trying to penetrate ever deeper into the territory of Vietnam.

We have scored important victories, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN writes. But we must continue the struggle, to deal the aggressors the most crushing blows. Our army and our people are increasing vigilance, are intensifying and consolidating the front of popular war on the northern border. And they are ready to rout the aggressors.

IZVESTIYA on Situation, PRC Reprisals

LD231213 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent M. Ilinskiy dispatch: "Interventionists Receive Mighty Rebuff. Stubborn Fighting in North Vietnam. Chinese Troops Sustain Heavy Personnel and Equipment Losses"]

[Text] Hanoi--The military communiques coming in from the Vietnamese provinces bordering China testify that the fiercest and bloodiest fighting between Vietnamese border guards and the Chinese aggressors is taking place in Hoang Lien Son and Lang Son provinces. Stubborn fighting is also taking place in northern areas of Cao Bang Province, in the area of Mong Cai (Quang Ninh Province) and in the area of Lai Chau and (Khatuen). According to data for the first 3 days of fighting, about 5,000 Chinese soldiers were put out of action 17 through 19 February, Hanoi's NHAN DAN reports.

Heavy fighting has developed in the area of the border city of Lao Cai--the center of Hoang Lien Son Province. After a mighty artillery bombardment the enemy succeeded in breaking through into the city. Schools, the city hospital and many apartment blocks have been reduced to ruins.

The Chinese aggressors are also putting down an intensive artillery bombardment in the area of Lang Son and Cao Bang. The peaceful population of these cities has been totally evacuated into the heartland of Vietnamese territory. The Chinese attempts to entrench themselves in these areas have been unsuccessful. The soldiers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] regional and border forces are forcing the aggressors out of the positions which they captured.

VNA reports that on the highway leading to the Hoa An area in Cao Bang Province Vietnamese subunits inflicted a surprise counterstrike against a moving column of Chinese tanks, army trucks and infantry units. As a result 13 enemy tanks were put out of action and 300 enemy soldiers were killed. The Chinese-Vietnamese phrasebooks found on the dead Chinese soldiers are proof that the aggression against Vietnam was prepared by the Beijing leaders long before the shameless incursion into Socialist Vietnam's territory.

Many instances of reprisals perpetrated by the Chinese soldiers against the peaceful population in the temporarily occupied territory have become known here. The Chinese aggressors have created for this purpose special teams which "comb" the area and kill all who have not had time to leave the zone of military operations. The villages of Bao Long and Cao Lu near Dong Dang in Lang Son Province have been burned to the ground. According to the testimony of some inhabitants of these villages who survived by a miracle, the Chinese, after looting property and seizing foodstuffs, "amused themselves" by shooting at defenseless Vietnamese, including children.

As for an overall assessment of the situation on all fronts, according to data for 21 February the situation on Vietnam's northern border has been stabilized; the Chinese aggressors are failing to break through any Vietnamese line of defense. Assessing the potential of the Chinese forces concentrated in the border area, specialists believe that the Maoists are utilizing 14 infantry divisions in their aggressive raids on Vietnam, while about 9 divisions are being held in reserve near the Vietnamese border.

The first 5 days of the border war unleashed by China make it possible to draw certain conclusions. Having employed blatant military force, the Beijing leaders have encountered resolute resistance from the heroic Vietnamese people. The Chinese raiders are sustaining heavy personnel and equipment losses. But a still graver defeat is being inflicted on Beijing in the moral and political and international plane. The reactionary Chinese leadership which has instituted an aggressive border war against peaceful Socialist Vietnam appears to all mankind to rank with the most reactionary imperialist circles. Beijing's present military adventure has revealed with still greater force the criminal face of the present Chinese leadership--the enemy of peace, social progress and the independence of the peoples.

Rallies and meetings of working people's representatives who are stigmatizing the Chinese aggressors are continuing throughout Vietnamese territory. The Vietnamese people are fully determined to defend their motherland's borders.

TU Official on USSR Support

OW241355 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 22 Feb 79 OW

[Statement by Pimenov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for Support to Vietnam and AUCCTU secretary--date and place not given--read by announcer]

[Text] The Beijing rulers' brazen, aggressive acts against Socialist Vietnam have caused great indignation among the Soviet people. The latter have always stood by the Vietnamese people's side during Vietnam's most difficult days. For many years now the Soviet Union has maintained an unswerving stand toward Vietnam, namely, that of constant faithfulness to the principles of proletarian internationalism. Relations between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples have been based on a policy of friendship, cooperation and readiness to support one another.

Comrade Peminov continues: At the suggestion of Soviet social organizations, the Committee for Support to Vietnam was set up in 1966 at a time when the struggle to oppose imperialist aggression against Vietnam was most furious. Among the members of the committee are representatives of working collectives, trade unions. Komsomol members and cultural, art and scientific cadres. In short, the committee's members represent the various masses of the Soviet people and social organizations, have confidence in everlasting Soviet-Vietnamese friendship, and are ready to express their close solidarity with the Vietnamese people.

The Soviet people fully support and unanimously approve the Soviet Government statement which resolutely demands that China end its aggression and immediately withdraw its troops from SRV territory.

Comrade Pimenov continues: We believe that all expansionist designs of the Beijing rulers will certainly be foiled. The Vietnamese people, united as one, and Vietnam's faithful friends, including the Soviet Union, constitute an obstacle to these designs. The solidarity between the Soviet and Vietnamese working peoples is based on the glorious traditions of proletarian internationalism--the firm foundation of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Vietnam. The Soviet Government statement affirms that the Soviet Union will honor the commitments stipulated in this treaty. Rallies in support of Vietnam continue to be held everywhere in the Soviet Union; this, too, testifies to the lasting character of the friendship that binds our two peoples.

Reflecting the wish of the working people, Soviet trade unions and the Soviet Committee for Support to Vietnam fully support the Soviet Government statement which condemns the Beijing rulers' aggression against Vietnam and express their close solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people. Activities aimed at tightening the ranks of peace-loving people in the world in support of the SRV against imperialist, bellicose and aggressive forces constitute a main, unswerving line of action by the Soviet trade unions and the Soviet Committee for Support to Vietnam. On this occasion, the Soviet Committee for Support to Vietnam calls on all men of conscience in the world to raise their voices in defense of the Vietnamese people's just cause.

TASS on World Communist Support

LD231910 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

["Solidarity With Vietnam"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 23, TASS--A campaign of the condemnation of the armed aggression by the Chinese military against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and of the support of the heroic Vietnamese people has acquired a world-wide scale. It was joined by practically all the communist and workers parties of non-socialist countries, by governments and leaders of a number of newly liberated states in Asia and Africa, by many international and national public organisations, by a number of socialist and social-democratic parties, parliaments, prominent politicians, public figures and intelligentsia.

The majority of Communist parties have made special political statements condemning the Chinese aggression. Among these parties are those of the USA, Portugal, Canada, France, Austria, Greece, Denmark, Belgium, Norway, Syria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela.

Representatives of a number of communist parties have made a joint statement condemning the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. Thus, for example, a joint statement was signed during the meeting on February 18 between Chairman of the German Communist Party Herbert Mies and Chairman of the Communist Party of Luxembourg Rene Urbany. On February 19, chiefs of the international sections of the Central Committees of the French and Italian Communist Parties, M. Gremets and C. Serge, demanded, on behalf of their parties, an end to the military actions and an immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnam.

Many communist parties sent their addresses to their governments and the UN Security Council. The Presidium of the Central Committee of the German Communist Party addressed the population calling on all the democrats and peaceloving forces of the Federal Republic of Germany to "Stop the enemies of peace in Beijing and their henchmen in the USA and in our country! Make protest at every opportunity, during demonstrations, at meetings and torch processions against the aggression against Vietnam! Send your protests to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China! Express your solidarity with the Vietnamese people through the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam! Hands off Vietnam! The cause of Vietnam is our cause! Solidarity will win!"

The Communist Party of Canada and the National Congress for the Defence of Peace sent their joint telegram to Premier Trudeau demanding from the government and Parliament of Canada the condemnation of the Beijing aggression against Vietnam.

The Communist Party of India has called on the Indian Government to come out with full determination against the Chinese aggression and demand an immediate withdrawal of the Chinese troops from the Vietnamese territory.

The Communist Party of Norway addressed an open letter to the Norwegian Government calling on the latter to dissociate itself from the Chinese aggression and to take steps aimed at its termination. Similar addresses were made by Communist parties in other countries.

The Communist press carries articles exposing the reactionary and pro-imperialist nature of the Beijing policy--"Stop Before It's Too Late!" in the British Communist newspaper MORNING STAR, "Necessary Condition Is the Withdrawal of the Chinese Aggressors" in the AKAHATA newspaper, "Chinese Aggression To Find Its Grave in Vietnam" in the Lebanese Communist newspaper AL-NIDA.

Communist parties are making requests in the parliaments of their countries. Thus, on behalf of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, Communist Deputy M. Salibi lodged a request at the National Council of Syria demanding from the Syrian Government to react to the Chinese actions. M. Salibi used the opportunity to explain the position of the Syrian Communist Party. He successfully used the Beijing propagandistic cliche of "safe borders" to stress the fact that the Arab nations know from their bitter experience what is understood by the aggressors under "safe borders"--this trick has been used by Israel for a long time to pursue its aggressive policy in the Middle East.

Together with public organisations, Communists throughout the world are holding mass demonstrations, meetings and torchlight processions, especially outside Chinese embassies. On February 18, a protest march was held in Delhi to the Chinese Embassy, which made a vivid demonstration of the feelings of the broad sections of the Indian population towards the Beijing aggression against Vietnam. Throughout India, the Communist Party is holding meetings and demonstrations condemning the aggressor. On February 17, a meeting of nearly three thousand was held in the central square of Bonn. Among the speakers was also K. Bakhman. After the meeting, hundreds of young Communists went to the Chinese Embassy to express their protest. Meetings under the slogan "Hands Off Vietnam!" were held in West Berlin. A money collecting campaign was started in West Germany to help Vietnam. Demonstrations are held outside Chinese embassies in Helsinki, Stockholm, Oslo, as well as manifestations in different cities of Canada, Cyprus, Australia and other countries.

SHITIKOV RECEIVES SRV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION

LD261822 Moscow TASS in English 1802 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 26, TASS--Today the chairman of the USSR parliamentary group Alekey Shitikov received a delegation of the parliamentary group of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, headed by deputy chairman of the SRV parliamentary group, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the SRV National Assembly Hoang Minh Giam. The group is passing through Moscow. During a friendly conversation questions pertaining to USSR-SRV parliamentary relations and participation in the activities of the Inter-Parliamentary Union were touched upon.

COMMENTARY PRAISES SRV-CAMBODIAN TREATY, SUMMIT OUTCOME

LD231509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Igor Shchedrov commentary: "Fraternal Solidarity"]

[Text] A treaty on peace, friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] was signed in Phnom Penh recently. The summit meeting between representatives of the young Kampuchean Republic and Socialist Vietnam and the signing of the treaty and other agreements mark a new stage of solidarity and cooperation between the fraternal countries.

The Indochinese peoples' historic victory of spring 1975 opened up before Vietnam, Kampuchea, Laos and all Southeast Asia prospects for peaceful development and the establishment of cooperation. But in Kampuchea the fruits of the people's victory were enjoyed by a pro-Beijing grouping which turned the country into a testing ground for Maoist experiments in "barracks socialism."

The pro-Beijing butchers' regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary was overthrown in the flames of the Kampuchean people's liberation struggle and the People's Republic of Kampuchea was born. The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea advocated pursuing a policy of peaceful coexistence, good-neighborliness and cooperation with all countries and building a peaceful, independent, democratic and neutral Kampuchea marching along the socialist path.

Beijing's hegemonist forces are not abandoning their hostile aspirations against the peoples of Indochina, however. The latest testimony to this is the blatant Chinese aggression against Vietnam.

In this situation the signing of the treaty on peace, friendship and cooperation between the SRV and the People's Republic of Kampuchea acquires particular value for the fate of peace in the region and throughout the world. This treaty confirms the two countries' unity of views on key foreign policy problems. Kampuchea and Vietnam will strengthen their combat solidarity, the treaty says, develop multifaceted relations with the socialist countries and consistently pursue a policy of friendship and good-neighborliness with Thailand and the other Southeast Asian countries.

The fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea are fully determined to do everything necessary to insure that the cause of peace in Indochina and throughout Southeast Asia becomes firmer. All people of good will on earth are in solidarity with them in this respect.

TWO CPSU OFFICIALS ARRIVE TOKYO AT JCP INVITATION

OW252345 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 25 Feb 79 OW

[Text] Fedoseyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and Kovalenko, sector chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, arrived in Tokyo today at the invitation of the Japan Communist Party.

SEMICHASTNOV MEETS WITH OHIRA, FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA

LD221615 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Unnamed TASS correspondent dispatch: "Tokyo's Guest"]

[Text] Tokyo--On 19 February Japanese Prime Minister M. Ohira received I.F. Semichastnov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, who is heading the Soviet delegation at the routine conference of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for business cooperation. A conversation on questions of interest to the sides took place during the meeting.

On the same day I.F. Semichastnov met with Japanese Foreign Minister S. Sonoda.

PLANNED ROK-U.S. EXERCISE WILL INCREASE TENSION IN AREA

SK210543 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 20 Feb 79 SK

[Text] REUTER, quoting sources in Seoul, has reported that U.S. and South Korean troops will stage a large-scale military exercise next month. Warships, airplanes and army and marine corps units will participate in the exercise, which is called "Team Spirit."

Observers note that this show of force will increase tension in that part of the world, while the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is making unvarying efforts for peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

Exercise Precedes Reunification Meeting

SK220450 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 21 Feb 79 SK

[Text] It was announced today in Seoul that a joint military exercise of U.S. and South Korean puppet troops is slated for 1-17 March. A total of 140,000 U.S. and South Korean troops will take part in the military exercise codenamed "Team Spirit '79."

In this connection, U.S. troops from bases on the U.S. mainland and on Okinawa are being transported to South Korea. Also taking part in the military exercise are the 7th Fleet warships and F-111 strategic bombers.

This show of force comes a week before DPRK and South Korean representatives meet for the second time to discuss Korea's democratic and peaceful reunification without foreign interference.

CUBA'S RAUL CASTRO CONTINUES OFFICIAL VISIT TO USSR

Receives Order of Lenin

LD270950 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, President Leonid Brezhnev, today presented the Order of Lenin to Cuban Defense Minister, General Raul Castro. Raul Castro was awarded the Soviet Government decoration for his contribution to the development of friendly ties between the armed forces of the two countries. Speaking at the presentation ceremony, Leonid Brezhnev said that Raul Castro was one of the closest associates of the leader of the Cuban revolution, Fidel Castro. President Brezhnev described the Soviet Union's relations with fraternal Cuba as a fine example of cooperation based on mutual respect, mutual understanding and complete trust, both in matters concerning the building of a new society and in international affairs.

As he received the award Raul Castro heartily thanked Leonid Brezhnev. He said that Cuban-Soviet friendship was unbreakable.

Meets With Brezhnev

LD271022 Moscow TASS in English 1004 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 27, TASS--Today Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received Raul Castro, member of the Political Bureau, the second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, the first vice chairman of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, who is currently in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit.

There was an exchange of views on matters of development and strengthening of fraternal cooperation between the Soviet Union and Cuba. Topical international problems were also touched upon. The conversation passed in an atmosphere of cordiality, friendship and unanimity.

Taking part in the conversation were Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of defence of the USSR as well as Anatoliy Blatov, assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

U.S. DECIDES NOT TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH SOMOZA REGIME

Ambassador Not Recalled

LD210853 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[A. Tolkunov "Rejoinder": "Not in a Recalling Mood"]

[Text] Only recently the White House was discussing whether it was not time to recall the U.S. ambassador from Nicaragua. It seemed somehow indecent to stay there any longer: The Somoza regime had shed a great deal of the people's blood and was flouting elementary human rights too blatantly. The first steps were taken: The embassy personnel was reduced and no less than four military advisers were recalled.

But matters went no further than this. "Despite threats to 'reassess' its mutual relations with Somoza since his refusal to resign, the Carter administration has decided not to break off diplomatic relations and not to recall the U.S. ambassador," the Washington POST reported recently.

But that is precisely the crux of the matter. The Washington POST reports that the U.S. capital is worried that Somoza's overthrow might bring to power representatives of the progressive forces, including communists.

In this situation they are not in the mood for hypocritical chatter. The issue is clear: The butcher Somoza is better than a democratization process with communist participation. That is why the United States is continuing, through third countries, to render military support to the bloody dictatorship and to supply mercenaries whose numbers greatly exceed the numbers of the diplomats and military specialists who have been recalled. And how can they manage here without an ambassador who, in the opinion of the Washington strategists, has to guide the Nicaraguan people's salvation from the "Red peril."

U.S. Gives Nicaragua Arms

LD180640 Moscow TASS in English 2318 GMT 17 Feb 79 LD

[Text] San Jose, February 17, TASS--A storm of indignation has been arisen in Nicaragua by the intrusion of warriors of Nicaraguan dictator Somoza into Leon's Church, the hiding place of five young men, participants in the action of protest against criminal deeds of the ruling regime and the killing of them.

A mass demonstration of students was held in Managua. In the course of the demonstration there were clashes of unarmed young people with national guardsmen who were used against them.

A number of the opposition parties, the leadership of the Association of Cotton Producers and the Chamber of Commerce have made a call that a general strike be held demanding that Somoza be deposed and democratic transformations be carried out in the country. In protest against atrocities of punitive troops, students of the Managua University suspended their studies and barricaded themselves in the university campus.

The Catholic Church has issued a statement denouncing the terror in the country.

Facts are coming to light, showing that the United States used the stay in Nicaragua of a "mediatory mission," headed by William Bowdler, director of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the Department of State, for covering up its actions aimed at propping up the shaky Somoza regime. At a time when "mediators" argued the most tractable representatives of the bourgeois opposition into a compromise with the tyrant, armaments for the dictator's troops were being shipped to Nicaragua from the United States.

According to the Costa Rican radio, six heavy American-made tanks were brought to Nicaragua late in January. Somoza purchased them from Washington at a symbolic price--a dollar per tank, which is not at all a toypiece.

Reporting this, the radio points to the phony character of the policy in "defence" of human rights, proclaimed by the present American administration. Regretting in word "excessive brutalities" of Somoza's thugs, Washington puts into their hands arms for repressions against the Nicaraguan people, stresses the radio-broadcast commentary.

GROMYKO ELECTION SPEECH WARNS PRC TO END AGGRESSION

LD261536 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Minsk, February 26, TASS--Industrial output in Belorussia, one of the fifteen Soviet constituent republics, increased more than 200 times in the past six decades, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko said when he addressed voters in Minsk.

Dwelling on Belorussia's economic development in the years of Soviet power, the candidate for election to the USSR Supreme Soviet said in particular that the Minsk tractor works alone needs only 14 months to put out 100,000 tractors. The founder of the CPSU and the Soviet state, Lenin, dreamt of such a number of tractors for the whole of the country. At the time for many people this seemed unattainable. The capital of Belorussia, Minsk, "today is one of the biggest industrial, scientific and cultural centres of the country. Its residents are rightly proud of their city that was restored from the ruins and ashes of war".

Andrey Gromyko devoted much attention to the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state. "The further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of countries of the socialist community was and remains the central direction of our foreign policy".

"Those whom it concerns both in the West and the Far East must know that the Soviet Union, its friends and allies are quite able to stand up for themselves. But our country does not threaten anyone, it wants only peace on earth," Andrey Gromyko said. He noted that the Chinese leaders unleashed aggression against the SRV because "they are obsessed with the ideas of hegemonism and expansionism. But they must know that Beijing's aggression is invariably doomed to failure".

"The Soviet Union," Andrey Gromyko said, "resolutely demands that the Beijing leadership end before it is too late the aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and immediately withdraw Chinese troops from its territory".

The minister stressed that "in its relations with the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, the Soviet Union has never sought unilateral advantages, has never pursued any narrow or selfish aims. This is alien to Soviet foreign policy". As [for] the capitalist states, he went on to say, "we are exerting persistent efforts to channel the relations with them increasingly into the roadway of peaceful coexistence".

"The political climate in the relations between the USSR and the United States must be more stable in the positive sense. This would meet the interests of both sides", the minister said.

Andrey Gromyko said that "the Soviet Union sides and will side with the just struggle of the Arab peoples". He noted that "our country has not interfered and is not interfering in the Iranian affairs. Nobody should meddle with these affairs and under no pretext".

Nobody is displaying more persistence in the effort to stop the arms race and secure disarmament than the Soviet Union. But we shall not relax our defence efforts in face of the growing military potential of the NATO countries, no matter by what demagogic arguments calls for this are camouflaged, Andrey Gromyko said.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

AZERBAIJAN CP REPRIMANDS LEADERS OF OIL ADMINISTRATION

LD261235 [Editorial Report LD] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 17 February 1979 carries on page 2 a 3,000-word unattributed report, entitled "At the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee," on a Central Committee discussion of "serious shortcomings in the selection, placement and education of cadres in Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers Main Administration for the Supply and Sales of Petroleum Products."

The Central Committee's resolution reportedly criticizes the administration's leaders for failing to adopt effective measures to improve the quality of personnel and to "prevent instances of theft and squandering of socialist property and purge the system of unscrupulous elements." The report says that people with bad records were appointed directors of oil depots. It also complains about thefts of fuel and lubricants at filling stations, incompetent account, and poor quality and late delivery of petroleum products.

The report goes on to outline measures to improve the situation and concludes by stating that main administration Chief Alekseyev was "severely reprimanded," administration First Deputy Chief Guseynov "dismissed and severely reprimanded" and Chief Engineer Mamedov "severely reprimanded."

RSFSR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS MINISTRY CRITICIZED IN PRAVDA

LD261247 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 12 February publishes on page 3, under the headline "With a Towel Across their Shoulder," a 400-word "rejoinder" by A. Vatygin describing difficulties "because of red tape" in introducing a dishwashing machine in a glassware factory where goods are washed and dried by hand before packing. Vatygin details the ramifications of a dispute over payment dates between the factory and the association producing the machine, describing the affairs as an "example of a bureaucratic attitude toward both words and deed" and criticizing the RSFSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry for its failure to intervene in the dispute.

EDITORIAL EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVING ENERGY

LD151257 [Editorial Report LD] Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian on 9 February front-pages a 900-word editorial under the heading "Saving Fuel and Energy." It stresses the importance of using energy resources to the best effect in order to improve labor productivity and the quality of work, thus insuring the fulfillment of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

BRIEFS

OIL PLEDGES--One out of every three tons of oil in the country is now extracted from the oilfields of the Nizhnevartovskneftegaz Production Association. They extract over 100,000 tons of liquid fuel daily. This year Nizhnevartovsk oilworkers have pledged to extract in excess of the plan 50,000 tons of liquid fuel and 50 million cubic meters of gas. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 23-26 FEB

LD270140 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0600 GMT on 23 February reports that all farms in Saratovskaya Oblast have completed preparation of seed for the spring sowing. The oblast intends to produce 7 million tons of grain this year. At 0900 GMT the radio reports that snow retention on 2.5 million hectares has been completed in Omskaya Oblast.

At 1000 GMT the radio reports that in Kirgizia, nitrate fertilizers have been applied to 150,000 hectares of winter grainfields. This is half the sown area. Kirgizia's grain target for the year is 1.4 million tons.

At 1330 GMT the radio reports that in Dagestan, a review of the readiness of agricultural equipment has begun. Over 10,000 tractors and practically all soil cultivating machines have been made ready. In leading farms in the regions near the Caspian Sea equipment has already been concentrated on the fields where sowing will begin soon.

At 0000 GMT on 24 February the radio reports that in Tuvinskaya ASSR preparations are being made for the beginning of fieldwork: Staffing of machine operators has been completed, machinery is being brought out of the repair shops, the repeat (?checking) of seeds is being completed, and snow retention has been completed on all planned areas.

At 0700 GMT the radio reports that a zone for guaranteed harvests is being formed in the south of the Ukraine. This will be made possible by transferring the waters of the Danube into the Dnepr. The water will travel through the Black Sea region to the Dneprovskiy estuary along a canal with a length of 290 km, the construction of which has already begun. The estuary, which is protected from the sea by a dike, will take as much water as it needs to supply farms in Odesskaya, Nikolayevskaya, Khersonskaya, Zaporozhskaya and Krymskaya oblasts. This zone will allow the production of grain, vegetables, fruit and other crops to be increased. The scientists consider that the canal will also improve the hydroregulating rate of the Danube.

At 1000 GMT on 25 February the radio reports that half the farms in Kazakhstan have already completed their preparations for sowing and 120,000 tractors have been repaired.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that 1.88 million hectares is sown with winter crops in Krasnodarskiy Kray. Aircraft are now engaged in topdressing them. Meanwhile preparations are nearing completion for the spring sowing. Spring crops--mostly sugar beets, sunflowers, corn, rice and vegetables--will occupy about 1.9 million hectares.

At 0200 GMT on 26 February radio correspondent Valeriy Parkhomenko reports from Baku that for several days now it has been snowing in Azerbaijan and farmers are overjoyed at this unusual phenomenon. Moisture retention is underway everywhere. Cotton and grain growers are doing well. High-quality seeds have been prepared and the overhaul of agricultural machinery is nearing completion. Over 90 percent of machinery is now ready. Azerbaijan's farmers have pledged to produce over 1 million tons of grain and to sell 550,000 tons of raw cotton to the state.

At 0700 GMT the radio reports that spring fieldwork has commenced in Armenia. Farms in the Ararat Valley are sowing potatoes and early cabbage. Lands which have laid fallow are being brought under the plow. This year the area of orchards and vinyards in Armenia will be increased by more than 2,000 hectares.

At 1000 GMT the radio reports that land cultivators of Dzhambulskaya Oblast in Kazakhstan have completed topdressing of winter crops on 100,000 hectares. Due to rain and warm winter there is quite a lot of moisture in the soil, which is being topdressed both from the ground and air.

AGRONOMIST STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF SEEDS, HITS SHORTCOMINGS

LD232224 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1906 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Here is a talk by the esteemed Soviet agronomist, Petr Akimovich Zabaznyy:

In the complex of agrotechnical measures, an important role belongs to seeds. It has been established by science and through practice that the sowing of high-quality seeds enables an additional 3-4--and more--quintals per hectare to be obtained. Most of the country's farms have fully provided for their seed requirements. However, on a number of farms in the Non-Chernozem Zone, Belorussia and the Baltic republics, in connection with the unfavorable weather last summer, there are shortages in pulse crops and buckwheat. In these conditions, agricultural organs have organized exchanges of seeds between farms. The intention of many farms lacking in seeds to plant buckwheat by the wide-row method and peas mixed in with barley, at shorter spacing than norma.., is worthy of attention. This will enable a greater area to be sown and a higher harvest to be obtained.

On the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes almost 90 percent of the seeds have been brought to sowing condition. Of these, 75 percent are grades one or two. However, on a number of farms in the Non-Chernozem Zone, Uzbekistan, and Latvia, quite a considerable quantity of grain crop seeds are not up to standard in cleanliness and humidity.

In many parts of the country, little time remains before the start of sowing. This is obliging managers and specialists on farms to speedily complete the preparation of seeds for sowing.

The leading farms usually implement a number of measures to preserve seeds and to enhance their sowing qualities. With the onset of the warmer weather, regular observations are made of the seeds in the stores, and if they ripen they are cooled by forced ventilation [aktivnoye ventilirovaniye] or [word indistinct]. Some 15-20 days before sowing, the sowing quality is again checked so that seeds of inferior shooting capacity are not sown. Many farms err when they try to make up for this inferiority by increasing the planting norm. This leads to a reduction in yield and quality of the grain crop and an unnecessary consumption of seeds.

A considerable quantity of corn seeds and seeds of other crops are provided to farms from state resources. But grain crop reception points in a number of republics--the Ukraine, Kirgizia and Uzbekistan--are slow in sending off seeds to other republics and oblasts. Time will not wait. The dispatch of seeds must be stepped up, bearing in mind that the republics of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus will be beginning mass sowing in a very short time, and in other parts of the country the seeds must be (?sent out) by the farms before the spring period of bad roads.

SOYUZ-32 DOCKS WITH SALYUT-6, COSMONAUTS BOARD

LD261800 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 26, TASS--The Soyuz-32 spaceship docked with the Salyut-6 orbital station at 16 hours 30 minutes Moscow time today. Soyuz-32 docked to the docking assembly situated on the station's transfer compartment. After checking airtightness, Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin opened the inner hatch and transferred to the station Salyut-6.

A Salyut-6 Soyuz research complex is again functioning on a near-terrestrial orbit.

Since the launching of the Salyut-6 orbital station six crews of cosmonauts have worked on board it. The two longest expeditions in the history of man's space studies, lasting 96 and 140 days respectively, were successfully carried out in the course of the research complex's flight.

Three international crews fulfilled programmes of joint studies on board the orbital complex. They included cosmonauts of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic. The lengthy active functioning of the manned complex was reliably ensured by means of four Progress automatic cargo ships that delivered to the complex fuel, equipment, instruments and expendable materials. The planned work was carried out fully.

In the period since November 2nd last year the Salyut-6 station continued its flight in the automatic regime. During that time the Flight Control Centre ensured control of the station and checked the state of onboard systems. In accordance with the programme of the flight technical experiments were carried out on orders from earth.

The crew of the complex Salyut-6 Soyuz-32 will carry out additional checks of the onboard systems, instruments and scientific equipment in the course of operation in the manned regime. The results of these operations will be used to determine the volume of prophylactical [as received] and the necessary repair and maintenance measures. The cosmonauts will conduct scientific-technical and medico-biological studies and experiments.

Cosmonauts Lyakhov and Ryumin are feeling well. The crew has started its work on board the orbital complex Salyut-6 Soyuz-32.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES DECIDES TO PUBLISH NEW JOURNALS

LD262120 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 26, TASS--Four new magazines on topical problems of science will be published in Moscow. The decision to the effect has been taken by the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences. They will be published by the Nauka (Science) Publishers beginning from next year.

The new periodic editions will include the magazine ISSLEDOVANIE ZEMLI IZ KOSMOSA (EARTH'S STUDIES FROM OUTERSPACE). Appointed as the chief editor is the vice-president of the USSR Academy of Sciences Academician Sidorenko.

The idea to create the magazine has been due to the vast amount of scientific material accumulated recently thanks to the successes in the study of outerspace.

The aim of another magazine entitled PSIKHOLOGICHESKIY ZHURNAL (JOURNAL ON PSYCHOLOGY) is to introduce the reader into social psychology, psychology of labor and into problems of great importance for the practice of communist construction.

The magazine GEOGRAFIA I PRIRODNYE RESURSY (GEOGRAPHY AND NATURAL RESOURCES) will focus on problems pertaining to the development of Siberia and the Soviet Far East, the planning and development of new industrial-territorial complexes.

The title of the fourth publication is VOPROSIY ISTORII ESTESTVOZNANIYA I TEKHNIKI (PROBLEMS OF THE HISTORY OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING).

The Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences has also decided to begin publishing ten new journals in the Soviet republics. All these publications will deal with those branches of knowledge which developed especially rapidly in recent years. The Ukraine where precision sciences were developing especially intensively will publish a magazine entitled ELEKTRONNOE MODELIROVANIE (ELECTRONIC MODELLING).

Belorussian publishers will publish research papers on superhard materials.

The new catalogue will also include such periodicals as METALLOFIZIKA (THE PHYSICS OF METALS), TEKHNICHESKAYA ELEKTRONIKA (TECHNICAL ELECTRONICS), and EXPEREMENTALNAYA ONOLOGIYA (EXPERIMENTAL CANCER RESEARCH). Many of the republic magazines will make their appearance already during this year.

BRIEFS

TURBOGENERATOR TESTED--Leningrad, February 20, TASS--The world's biggest turbogenerator of 1,200,000 kilowatt has been tested by the Elektrosila electrical-engineering amalgamation here. This power-generating unit is now being prepared for shipment to the Kostroma thermal power station (in the center of Russia). The giant turbogenerator has fifty percent greater capacity than the biggest turbogenerators now in operation in the USSR. The new generator is an economical one and its technical standard is very high. The use of such machines will help cut considerable capital investments in the construction of power stations and reduce construction time. Personnel, fuel and material requirements are also reduced. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 20 Feb 79 LD]